

Belgian Laces



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BELGIAN LACES
Official Quarterly Bulletin of
THE BELGIAN RESEARCHERS
Belgian American Heritage Association

Our principal objective is:
Keep the Belgian Heritage alive in our hearts and in the hearts of our posterity

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Vice-President	Gail Lindsey
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** The content of the articles is the sole responsibility of those who wrote them*

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Dear Friends,

Just before mailing out the December 2000 issue of *Belgian Laces*, and as I was trying to figure out an economical way of reminding members to send in their dues for 2001, I started a list for that purpose. Only as I learned a few things about using the list, it grew into a perfect place to 'deposit' some archives as well as a good place to encourage interaction within the membership of *The Belgian Researchers*. Some sent in queries that saw good results while others took advantage of the indexes of old issues that Matt VERONA and Micheline GAUDETTE were so kind as to provide for us all.

The page where you can find this list was changed from egroups to yahoogroups and this has caused some difficulties for some to access the page. You need to register with Yahoo before you can access the page. It doesn't cost anything and you might find it beneficial to you to access back issues of *Belgian Laces* as well as other databases and internet links that are valuable to anyone researching Belgian ancestry.

We were able to run some polls to find out what the membership wanted to see published in "*Belgian Laces*". We also had a poll to find out what geographical regions were most researched by our membership. This is not an accurate representation of our whole membership since not everyone got to participate. So I would like to reopen the polls when I have more email addresses. If you don't have an email address, you can still participate by sending me your reply by regular mail.

We will certainly not compete with Georges PICAVET's rootsweb list and site where SO MUCH is available to assist the researcher. Our list is found at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TheBelgianResearchers> (*notice there is no space between the words). To subscribe send an email to TheBelgianResearchers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com To subscribe to *BELGIUM ROOTS*, send an email to BELGIUM-ROOTS-L-request@rootsweb.com

It looks like we are entering a new era. I anticipate many good changes and look forward to more interaction for our members.

Here are the results of the polls. Hoping to hear from you soon,

Take good care,

And happy hunting,

Régine

POLL QUESTION: Where did your Belgian ancestors settle?

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| - Pennsylvania, 10 votes | - Nebraska, 3 votes | - Kentucky, 1 vote |
| - Illinois, 7 votes | - Kansas, 2 votes | - Massachusetts, 1 vote |
| - Ohio, 7 votes | - Louisiana, 2 votes | - Ontario, 1 vote |
| - Michigan, 6 votes | - Oregon, 2 votes | - Texas, 1 vote |
| - Canada, 5 votes | - Washington, 2 votes | - Utah, 1 vote |
| - New York, 5 votes | - California, 1 vote | |
| - Missouri, 4 votes | - Florida, 1 vote | |

POLL QUESTION: What was your Belgian ancestors main occupation?

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| - Farmers, 32 votes | other, 13 votes | - workers in the metal industry |
| - Coal Miners, 11 votes | The new poll will also list | - stone cutters |
| - Glass workers, 11 votes | - railroad workers | and more... |
| - Weavers, 6 votes | - nail makers | |

POLL QUESTION: What area of Belgium are you researching?

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| - Brabant, 19 votes | - Western Flanders, 12 votes | - Eastern Flanders, 9 votes |
| - Hainaut, 19 votes | - Liege, 10 votes | - Antwerpen, 3 votes |
| - Namur, 13 votes | - Luxembourg, 10 votes | - Limburg, 1 votes |

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- | | |
|--|---|
| 908. Andre BODART, Ligny, Belgium | 909. Joe ROELS, East Moline, IL |
| 910. Genevieve ROSSEEL, Laval, Quebec | 911. Dorothy JANNECK, Rochester, NY |
| 912. Nancy MARTIN, San Jose, CA | 913. Paul THEYS, Green Bay, WI |
| 914. Glenn A. CLEEREMAN, Green Bay, WI | 915. Richard & Barbara YONCK, Sequim, WA |
| 916. John STROHL, Madison, WI | 917. Jerrian D. BARNES, Grand Rapids, MI |
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| 920. Michelle LAROCHE, Topeka, KS | 921. Guy BONEMME, |
| 922. Shirley DOBBELEER-DORCHIES, Warwick, RI | 923. Jeff LUCIA, Houston, TX |
| 924. Dale V. MOEYKENS, Farmingdale, ME | 925. Paula MORTON, Las Vegas, NV |
| 926. Marie OKSTAD, Grand Forks AFB, ND | 927. Robert L. PALZER, Ashland, OR |
| 928. Dianne SPEARS, Tarentum, PA | 929. Beatrice GUILLETTE, Sturgeon Bay, WI |
| 930. Larry & Ann PETERSON, Shaumburg, IL | 931. Mary Kay WHITBECK-MILQUET, De Pere, WI |

Emigration of the people from the Arlon Area to the USA during the 18th and 19th centuries - Part1

Researched and Written by André GEORGES, Belgium

The content of History books usually involves the "great" of this world. They are generally based on documents from the time period and usually meant to portray things the way the people in power wanted things to be seen. This usually didn't correspond to the way the common man saw things.

But little by little writings appear, written by regular people about the past of their area, their city, their village.

There, the History of the "not great" is brought out, simply reflecting every day life.

These writings are just now beginning to be published:

« Histoire d'Arlon » (History of Arlon) - 1940 and

« Les Luxembourgeois de 1830 » (The 1830 Luxemburgers) - 1980 - reset the clocks in terms of local history.

« Le Luxembourg Belge » (The Belgian Luxembourg) - 1996,

« 7 siècles d'histoire au Pays d'Arlon » (7 Centuries of History in Arlon Country) - 1998,

« Saga Paysanne » (Peasant Saga) - 2000 (Story of the BERG family of the Arlon area),

« Saga d'Ardenne » (Ardenne Saga) - 2000 (Story of a GEORGE(S) family in the Northern part of the Province of Luxembourg) and still other books that go beyond my field of research on the GEORGES and allied families of the region named « Le Pays d'Arlon » (the Land of Arlon).

An important book is soon to be published on the villages of Fouches (Hachy, near Arlon), place of origin of many emigrants to the USA.

«The Land of Arlon » is a territorial zone characterized by a Luxemburger dialect, the « Gallic Mosellan » and a Germanic culture. The area was finally incorporated into the Belgian Province of Luxembourg (separated from the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, speaking a Luxemburger dialect) by the treaty of London in 1839.

This breakup of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg was decided by the great powers for strategic reasons: guarantees for the Germanic countries against an eventual French invasion.

The Arlon area theoretically belonged to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (same language), but for strategic Belgian interests, a certain class of pro-Belgian landowners didn't want to see their property divided. The German negotiators' likely lack of knowledge concerning the lands took care of the rest. To them, what was important was to maintain the stronghold fortress of Luxembourg.

To find answers to the stories of the "Little" ones, it has been necessary to consult a number of documents to glean here and there some bits of interests.

What led men, entire families, mostly at the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century to leave Arlon, their country of origin? The answers aren't simple, there are many and they are varied, conditioned by the political, social and economical environment. I will attempt to explore the different causes of this migration, which also occurred in a lesser manner to Central Europe (Austrian period), to the North (metal industry qualifications) and also to South America.

These tentative answers do not claim to be the truth but rather a basis for meditation on the question.

The Land of Arlon.

The Land of Arlon, cut by several brooks and rivers, has been inhabited for several thousand years. The Semois River finds its source in Arlon.

Arlon was born in the days of the Celts¹*, which gives Arlon the title of one of the oldest cities of Belgium. These Celts, who didn't form a real empire, were probably assimilated progressively into the local population. This gave birth to the Gauls: Atrebates, Eburons, Nervians, ... and Treves. This last tribe occupied the land of Arlon with Trèves, Germany as its capital.

Around 50 B.C., the Romans invaded Gaul all the way to the Rhine River, natural barrier and frontier.

This Roman presence created the Gallo-roman civilization. For the elite and the well to do, this was probably the most prosperous period in terms of culture and economy that the land of Arlon has known. Ruins worthy of interest and an exceptional museum retrace this era.

From the end of the 3rd century to the beginning of the 4th, Europe saw some important migration movements from the East to the West. Arlon doesn't escape from this human stream.

In 406, more invasions: Germanic hords called the Barbarians² pushed by the Huns, Turco-Mongol people merged with the Gallo-romans. These barbarians are: the Alamans, the Angles, the Saxons, the Germans, the Franks, the Vandals, the Lombards, the Wisigoths... But the Franks settled in the Arlon area.

It's in the 5th century that the new language took hold in the Arlon area: « A high German dialect, the Gallic Mosellan ».

¹ Indo-European people who came from Germany (North-East) appeared in Europe about 2000 B.C. (according to some historians). But it is more likely to speak of two periods: the first happening from about 2000 B.C. to about 500 B.C., Neo-Celtic period, and from 500 B.C., actual Celtic period.

² Latin for non-Latin peoples.

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This living language, with its evolution, is still spoken in the area of Arlon and in the Grand-Dutchy of Luxemburg as well as by some descendants of this region who emigrated to the USA in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Some zones that resisted the Germanic invasions with more strength than Arlon maintained a Gallo-Roman predominance.

The Germans called these neighbors, Walah³. This term is at the origin of today's word, Walloon.

From the Germanic invasions of the 3rd and 4th centuries until the 10th century, Arlon feels the influences of the Merovingians and the Carolingians as well as a decline in their roads and their lack of safety.

The Middle Ages, in Arlon like everywhere else, is characterized by a society fixed in a system of civil, religious and military hierarchy and the constant struggles between lords, great and small, for the possession of land and property. In this context, it is the population that is taken hostage and bears the consequences: famines, epidemics, killings....

Under Charles Quint (Charles V), in the 16th century, the Luxemburg recovered territorial limits, which included today's Grand Dutchy of Luxemburg, along with the Belgian Province of Luxemburg, the regions of Saint Vith and Beauraing, the German region of Bitburg, the French regions of Carignan, Montmédy and Thionville.

Beginning in the 16th century, we see a period of ravages, killings, pillages, rapes, fires, famines, epidemics and a general impoverishment.

The Spanish and Austrian soldiers in charge of defending the country against the French, didn't stop them and sometimes were even guilty of abuses against the local population.

Many French invasions followed one another in the area, in July 1542, in January and April 1544. The invasion of the region and the pillage of Arlon in 1558, 1562, 1568 besides the fires of 1563 and 1569 (accidents) made life even more difficult. Witch trials caused an even greater deterioration of the social environment: in 1589 two women were burnt at the stake, in 1597 one person, in 1598 two, in 1599 three more.

During the 17th century, "the century of misfortunes", the country was tormented by war between Spain and the United Provinces (part of today's Netherlands).

In 1604, Dutch pirates lay waste to the country.

From 1621 to 1665, constant war, called the "30 year War" forces the population to contend with the passage and the presence of troupes, disasters that follow one another, famine, abuses of the population, the plague...

In 1636, besides the famine and the plague, Croatian soldiers, integral part of the imperial army came to rescue the Netherlands, committed acts of rare violence towards the people of the area.

In 1650, 1651, the region had to withstand French invasions.

Add to that, regular fires, mainly in Arlon: the buildings of the time, in the ramparts were practically all in wood.

After the French invasion of 1681, the region remained under French occupation, then fell again into Spanish hands after the Peace of Ryswick in 1697.

In 1715, Charles VI, Emperor of Germany took possession of the Grand Dutchy. After more or less 200 years of war and misery, this proved to be a relatively calm period for the area. The task remained to rebuild the country ravaged by decades of various calamities. Destitution and poverty is everyone's lot.

In 1793 and 1794, the French invested again in the region and after the victory of Jordan, on June 24th, 1794 in Fleurus, the area was back under French domination.

This French presence, like the Austrian presence, besides the obligation of providing for the troupes' needs, saw the enlistment, more or less voluntary, of young men, into the occupying armies and its inevitable and understandable consequence of desertions and refractions, for example: the enlisting into the Napoleonic army for its many campaigns in Europe.

The levying of troupes was done for a time by lottery drawing. The wealthy could purchase the good numbers from poor men who had been fortunate enough to draw them, which allowed the rich to evade the service in the army.

It is interesting to note a certain resistance of the population and of the local elite against the demands and obligations defined by the different occupants: change in type and manner of requirements, war taxes, food and lodging of troupes, provision of horses,...

The villages of the land of Arlon in those days counted at most some hundreds of inhabitants. Arlon, free city, commercial, administrative and military center, only had a few thousand.

The countryside was characterized by a majority of farmers who often practiced another profession such as weaver, day laborer, mason. Village families, mostly farmers, farm laborers and day laborers, lived mainly on what they could produce themselves: harvests, cattle, pigs and especially sheep. They produced a good part of their necessities, such as bread, cheese, beer.

The rather small cultivated areas, usually of meager quality, were worked by the farmers, their families, and the systems of successions and the general context make life very difficult. We see among large families, with a relatively large infant mortality rate, and specific privileges for the oldest male, a relatively small endowment for the other children, the payment of leases, the purging of loans taken during bad years, the parceling of lands, the forced sale to pay debts. These situations pushed young men to leave the village to seek their fortune elsewhere (Belgium, France....). The daughters, as much as possible were married well. If they remained single, they ended up as aids in the family or as servants in another farm or in the city.

The youths who left often settled within a few hundred kms' distance of their village of origins, sometimes more.

³ Germanic word for 'foreign'.

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In 1814-1815, after Napoléon's retreat, the country was placed under the Allies' Interim government, ie. Prussians (Germans) and their troupes. The same problems and misfortunes brought by occupying troupes reappear in the country.

After Napoléon's defeat at Waterloo in 1815, the land of Arlon (land of Luxemburg) fell under Dutch régime from 1815 until 1830 and was raised to be the Grand Dutchy of Luxemburg, as the King of Holland's own property to compensate for possessions given to Prussia (Germany).

The Dutch wanted however to impose a régime to the country as though the Grand Dutchy of Luxemburg was an integral part of Holland.

The population was generally disheartened: Taxation on family produces (i.e. beer, tobacco), taxation on French wine and trade with France became difficult if not impossible and subject to taxing.

The country entered a period yet darker: closing of the French frontier, main place of commercial exchange with the south, difficulties of trading with the North because of the state of the roads and the landscape. At first, only one road from Arlon to Brussels (200km), more or less 42 hours by coach through Neufchâteau. A road, poorly maintained and covered with chicken nests with tolls, sometimes every 5 km. Later another road was opened to Martelange.

Selling part of your produce to purchase other items became difficult, even impossible.

In 1830, a new division of the Grand Dutchy of Luxemburg created Belgium and gave her land of Germanic Arlon.

DECLARATIONS OF INTENTION - BROWN COUNTY, WISCONSIN - (a continuing series)

by Mary Ann DEFNET, Green Bay, Wisconsin

This issue's listings begin with 1874.

As other counties and circuit courts were established in northeastern Wisconsin, the number of people applying for in Brown County diminished. A substantial number of Belgians were still coming into the area and declared their intention to become citizens of the United States.

Name	Birth	Port	Arrival	Declaration
1874				
Joseph Amand BAUER	1847	Portland	Feb 1873	5 July 1874
Louis BOXY	1826	New York	Oct 1871	4 Nov 1874
Alex BAWYN (BAUWEN)	1839	Red River	July 1866	28 Mar 1874
Emile BROSTEAU	1850	Green Bay	July 1872	1874
Celestin CAPELLE	1844	New York	Aug 1873	3 Nov 1874
Francois DEWIT	1818	New York	July 1872	6 Apr 1874
Francois DUPONT	1802	Green Bay	Aug 1872	7 Apr 1874
J.B. DEWIT	1853	New York	June 1872	7 Apr 1874
Alphonse FAIRON (FERRON)	1843	Portland	Apr 1872	7 Apr 1874
Augustus FONDAIR (FONDER)	1848	New York	Aug 1856	7 Apr 1874
Desiré GODEFRIN	1849	New York	Sept 1872	7 Apr 1874
Albert GOFFART	1819	New York	Apr 1872	25 July 1874
Hubert GOFFART	1851	New York	Apr 1872	7 Apr 1874
L.Joseph HOBRECKTS (HOEBRECKX)	1840	New York	June 1859	2 Nov 1874
Joseph P. LA HAYE	1851	Portland	Apr 1872	31 Oct 1874
Joseph P. LA HAYE	1813	Port land	March 1872	6 Apr 1874
Nestor LANOY	1851	New York	Nov 1872	2 Nov 1874
Hubert NIHOUL	1832	Portland	Apr 1872	30 Oct 1874
Henry RENTMEESTERS	1848	New York	July 1873	3 Nov 1874
J. B. ROSE	1842	Green Bay	June 1873	25 July 1874
Peter J. RUELLE	1801	New York	Nov 1872	Nov 1874
Joseph SALMON	1825	New York	Apr 1871	2 Nov 1874
Nicolas SIMON	1851	Green Bay	July 1872	25 July 1874
Joseph STACHE	1840	Green Bay	June 1869	12 June 1874
Benoit THIARD	1851	New York	Sept 1872	7 Apr 1874
Charles THIARD	1852	New York	Sept 1872	7 Apr 1874
Andre VAN ARK	1832	New York	May 1866	6 Apr 1874
Joseph VAN ESS	1830	Portland	Apr 1872	30 Oct 1874
1875				
Isidor BOMBAUS	1830	New York	May 1871	6 Apr 1875
Constant BOSSE	1848	Baltimore	Aug 1871	6 Apr 1875
Henri DACHELET	1828	New York	Nov 1869	6 Apr 1875
Henri DEWAN	1845	Philadelphia	Oct 1873	6 Apr 1875
Elie GOTTO		Portland	Apr 1870	9 Apr 1875
Alfons/Alphonse RONDOU	1853	New York	Apr 1874	Apr 1875

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1876

Antone Francois ADRIAENSSENS	1819	New York	Aug 1872	6 Nov 1876
Joseph ALLON (ALLAUX/ALLEN)	1843	New York	Dec 1855	6 Nov 1876
John AVERLU (OBERLO/OVERLO)	1839	New York	Oct 1873	6 Nov 1876
Gabriel BIEMERET	1845	New York	July 1855	15 Sep 1876
Nicolas BRAHY	1836	Detroit	Aug 1872	4 Nov 1876
John CAYELS	1821	Detroit	Aug 1872	7 Nov 1876
Joseph CLEREMANS	1851	New York	Sept 1856	7 Nov 1876
Peter J. DANIELS	1849	New York	July 1855	7 Nov 1876
John DEBEUKLAER	1839	De Pere	Oct 1872	6 Nov 1876
John DENIS	1848	New York	Aug 1857	6 Nov 1876
Frank DEROOST	1837	New York	June 1869	7 Nov 1876
John P. DETIENNE	1850	New York	May 1854	6 Nov 1876
John Joseph Gustave DRION	1836	New York	Sept 1861	6 Nov 1876
Joseph DUJARDIN	1840	New York	June 1871	6 Nov 1876
Edouard GAROT	1840	Detroit	Aug 1871	7 Nov 1876
Gerard GODFIRNON	1844	New York	Oct 1872	7 Nov 1876
August HERALY	1842	New York	Oct 1856	20 Dec 1876
Joseph HOTE	1839	New York	Jan 1871	4 Nov 1876
Jean Joseph HUJET	1833	Detroit	June 1871	6 Nov 1876
Gregoire JANQUART	1832	New York	May 1871	6 Nov 1876
Hubert Joseph LEFEBVRE	1817	New York	May 1874	6 Nov 1876
Victor LIGOT	1831	New York	May 1871	21 Nov 1876
Henry MOES	1825	New York	July 1871	6 Nov 1876
John Baptist MOES	1853	New York	July 1871	2 Nov 1876
Clement MASSEY	1847	New York	Mar 1854	6 Nov 1876
Julius PARMENTIER	1832	New York	Oct 1873	6 Nov 1876
Frank SIBEL (SEBILLE)	1846	De Pere	June 1854	6 Nov 1876
William TIELENS	1832	New York	Sept 1855	6 Nov 1876
Leopold VANDER BUSCH	1836	New York	June 1867	6 Nov 1876
Desiré VANDERLINDEN	1854	New York	May 1874	4 Nov 1876
Cornelius VAN HEURCK	1838	Detroit	April 1870	29 Sept 1876
Frank VERBERCKMOES	1854	New York	Aug 1874	6 Nov 1876
Louis VERBERCKMOES	1850	New York	Oct 1875	6 Nov 1876
Francis VINCENT	1854	New York	Mar 1856	7 Nov 1876
Henry WARNER	1853	New York	July 1855	7 Nov 1876

1877

Victor BADER	1854	Green Bay	June 1855	16 Apr 1877
Alexander DEREZE	1821	Quebec	Aug 1872	9 Apr 1877
Theodore DISTICHE (DESTACHE)	1849	New York	Nov 1854	22 Oct 1877
Basil DUJARDIN	1854	New York	1856	20 Apr 1877
Ferd. JEANNEME	1842	New York	June 1876	24 Oct 1877

1878

William DE WITT	1855	New York	July 1872	1 Apr 1878
Constantine LA GRAFFE	1822	New York	May 1871	5 Nov 1878
Simon LANCELLE	1847	Detroit	Oct 1871	28 Mar 1878
William MYES	1845	New York	Aug 1871	28 Oct 1878
Jean-Hubert SIMON	1848	Detroit	July 1872	4 Nov 1878
Constantine SINCLAIRE (SAINTELET)	1847	Boston	Apr 1857	1 Apr 1878
Henry VAN DEUREN	1853	New York	Aug 1857	4 Nov 1878
John B. VAN DEUREN	1855	New York	Aug 1857	4 Nov 1878
Peter VANDER LINDEN	1846	New York	May 1871	4 Nov 1878
Francis VERSTAPPEN	1846	New York	July 1876	28 Oct 1878

Conscription

By Louis Van Den Brande, Drogenbos, Belgium - louisvdb@hotmail.com

The “GUERRE DES PAYSANS “ - Peasants' War - was brought about in part by a law promulgated for Belgium by the French ruler on September 27th, 1798 (6 Vendémiaire Year VII).

This law made military service compulsory for every young man who turned twenty until their twenty-fifth birthday. The first levy included the young men born from September 22nd, 1777 up to September 21st, 1778.

The uprising of Belgian people born on 10/10/1798 till the last popular hero CHARLES JACQMAIN was killed in action in the Woods of Soignes (the biggest European beech wood) near Brussels on 30/7/1799.

Centuries ago that the Belgian people wasn't forced to go in the army and only Belgian volunteers existed in the different armies which controlled the country.

Starting in 1713, we were Austrians and their recruiting of soldiers was peculiar:

The army consisted of more or less volunteer recruits. Not until 1777 was a law formed that initiated conscription (draft) for men 20 to 40 years old and of more than 5 feet tall, but that didn't apply to Belgium.

The infantry recruiting officers were escorted by clerks, physicians, bandsmen and selected soldiers from among the senior and most impressive of the regiment. When they came to the city, a bell was rung to gather the people. The recruiter's gift of gab, with all its charlatan's tricks, the pleasant music and then the pouring out of good sparkling wine convinced often people to enlist.

They were also lured by the attractive uniform and the promise of pay, of 25 florins for a infantryman up to 50 or more for a cuirassier or a dragoon. Unfortunately, the docking for payment of uniform and bayonet often went beyond the 18 florins. The recruiters favored people between 18 and 30y of age and those taller than 5 feet 5 inches.

Cavalry was more appealing. Men who grew up around horses and who were used to hard labor were sought after: blacksmith, farmers, carters, cowboys between 18 and 40 and taller than 5 feet 4 inches tall. Some privates and corporals enlisted for life.

One exception was made on May 12th, 1757, when contracts of small duration were offered for people who signed up for 6 years or for the duration of the war.

All the same, some recruiters were more sly and went in the cities during the rural fairs. They showed up 2 or 3 days after fair start. The peasants had the opportunity to spend money, sometimes lavishly and some were involved in scuffles.

It is the time they chose to step in and the peasants were happy enough to enlist and so to escape justice.

One of the reasons of numerous desertions in the Austrian army was the way private soldiers were treated. The Field Service Regulations of 1749 had to direct a condemnation at the commanders who seem to be ashamed of speaking in an affable way with the private soldiers. Some of them actually labor under the delusion that it detracts from their officers' status to approach the private man other than through blows, threats!

This was taken from “ **THE ARMY OF MARIA THERESIA - 1740-1780** “ by DUFFY.

As you know, the French rulers required that enlistment registers be kept where we can find physical description of our forebears born between 1777 and 1794. There are also several similar registers for later dates like for my great-greatgrandfather who was a soldier in 1826: "1,67 meter tall, fair-haired, pointed nose and chin, gray eyes, normal mouth."

According to another piece of information about the end of the 18th century: during Years VI, VII (1797-1799) marriages were only celebrated in the county seat towns.

Valdieu Abbey



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Nethen Marriage Index - 1797-1860 (Part 6 - end -Backwards) - Régine Brindle

Abs , Antoine/Ferdinand, Marie T.	May 6, 1847	Binard , Jean A./Schauwens, Marie L.	Sep. 11, 1869
Albert , Guillaume/Thimermans, Marie A.	Dec. 24, 180	Binard , Jean B./Lorent, Marie J.	Nov 26, 1775
Albert , Jean B./Draije, Marie E.	Apr. 28, 1839	Binard , Jean F./Anciaux, Marie J.	Oct. 4, 1828
Anciaux , Alexis/Oranie, Marie T.	Jan. 10, 1868	Binard , Pierre/Hallaux, Marie T.	Feb. 5, 1786
Anciaux , Antoine/Valise, Josephine	Jul. 19, 1850	Blange , Jean J./Draije, Josephine	Feb. 2, 1831
Anciaux , Augustin/Paye, Marie T.	May 27, 1829	Blange , Julien J./Snaps, Adolphe	Feb. 6, 1869
Anciaux , Egide/Paije, Jeanne C.	Apr. 8, 1766	Blocquiau , Joseph/Manquoui, Jeanne M.	Apr. 9, 1758
Anciaux , Eloi J./Albert, Alexandrine	May 23, 1844	Botton , Antoine/Hacardiau, Marie T.	Sep. 12, 1811
Anciaux , Eloi J./Godefrin, Natalie	Nov. 28, 1832	Botton , Jean P./Binard, Marie L.	Nov. 16, 1777
Anciaux , Honore/Gillard, Marie C.	Oct. 20, 1858	Botton , Victor/Tavernier, Anne C.	Nov. 5, 1864
Anciaux , Jean B./Antonneaux, Marie T.	Sep. 14, 1855	Bourguignon , Charles J./Socquet, Marie H.	May 13, 1843
Anciaux Jean B./Gillain, Julienne	Jan. 30, 1864	Bourguignon , Gaspard/Draije, Marie J.	Oct. 9, 1867
Anciaux , Jean B./Servais, Marie A.	Jun. 24, 1822	Bourguignon , Honore J./Snaps, Julienne	Sep. 12, 1857
Anciaux , Jean B./Socquet, Sabine	Apr. 24, 1757	Bourguignon , Jean B./Anciaux, Marie T.	Jan. 10, 1851
Anciaux , Jean B./Bouillon, Marie T.	Oct. 20, 1830	Bourguignon , Jean B./Delpierre, Marie I.	Nov. 23, 1836
Anciaux , Jean B./Ingebos, Marie J.	Jan. 10, 1844	Bourguignon , Jean B./Pensis, Marie J.	Nov. 23, 1836
Anciaux , Jean J./Lambert, Francoise A.	Nov. 21, 1838	Bourguignon , Jean B./Socquet, Anne M.	Jun. 19, 1830
Anciaux , Jean J./Laurent, Marie J.	Jul. 24, 1819	Bourguignon , Jean J./Vanbever, Marie T.	Sep. 18, 1858
Anciaux , Jean J./Lorent, Anne J.	Feb. 12, 1853	Bourguignon , Jean J./Manquoui, Marie T.	Jun. 15, 1854
Anciaux , Jean J./Ronsmans, Marie	Feb. 14, 1792	Bourguignon , Jean N./Falise, Marie T.	May 12, 1855
Anciaux , Jean L./Dassy, Marie T.	Sep. 22, 1849	Bourguignon , Jean P./Manquoy, Elisabeth	Jan. 22, 1813
Anciaux , Louis/Manquoui, Anne M.	Jul. 10, 1831	Brasseur , Elie J./Anciaux, Marie J.	Feb. 22, 1865
Anciaux , Louis/Verhulst, Marie A.	Sep. 12, 1857	Brassine , Pierre/Sprutels, Catherine	May 23, 1763
Anciaux , Louis T./Manquoui, Natalie	Jun. 4, 1862	Caluwaerts , Pierre J./Cleremans, Jeanne	Apr. 24, 1806
Anciaux , Pierre/D'Haenen, Marie C.	Apr. 23, 1810	Canvat , Antoine J./Draije, Marie T.	Sep. 3, 1864
Anciaux , Pierre/Page, Catherine	Feb. 8, 1737/38	Canvat , Antoine J./Flemalle, Marie J.	May 4, 1859
Anciaux , Pierre/Socquet, Marie J.	Oct. 5, 1820	Cassaert , Desire/Albert, Marie J.	Jan. 30, 1839
Anciaux , Pierre/J.Goffin, Anne M.	Feb. 6, 1826	Cassaert , Desire/Grietens, Marie T.	Nov. 5, 1859
Anciaux , Robert/Moisse, Marie C.	Nov. 17, 1815	Cassart , Felicien J./Anciaux, Marie J.	Oct. 21, 1864
Anciaux , Thomas/Socquet, Marie E.	Jun. 15, 1848	Catseer , Jean B./Demoulin, Jeanne M.	Apr. 29, 1853
Antonain , Gilles/Manquoy, Marie A.	1801	Cesar , Jean L./Vandenplas, Caroline	Feb. 13, 1861
Antoneau , Antoine/Draije, Marie C.	Aug. 24, 1867	Cesar , Jean P./Binard, Anne	Jan. 29, 1823
Antoneau , Jean B./Draye, Marie J.	Dec. 27, 1822	Chafriaux , Henry/Botton, Marie E.	1804
Antoneau , Jean J./Vincent, Philomene	Oct. 27, 1866	Charlier , Isidore/Hacardiaux, Alexandrine	Jun. 20, 1825
Antoneau , Jean P./Delvaux, Marie E.	Aug. 18, 1831	Closse , Petrus A/ Francart, Maria J.	Oct. 1783
Antoneaux , Maximilien/Anciaux, Marie P.	Dec. 10, 1864	Colart , Jean F./Ronsmans, Jean F.	Jan. 17, 1822
Antonneau , Theophile/Vandenplas, Marie O.	Mar. 18, 1870	Collard , Desire/Dassij, Marie A.	Apr. 27, 1843
Antonneaux , Jean B./Page, Felicite	May 3, 1856	Collart , Jean B./Dimmiaux, Marie A.	Mar. 4, 1865
Antonniau , Leopold/Ronsmans, Marie T.	Feb. 12, 1870	Collart , Jean J./Bourguignon, Marie C.	Aug. 21, 1839
Bailli , Denis/Francart, Maria P.	May 17, 1791	Collart , Pierre J./Ronsmans, Marie E.	Dec. 2, 1813
Baillieux , Jean J./Clabots, Marie	Aug. 21, 1839	Collart , Pierre J./Socquet, Marie H.	Feb. 1, 1862
Balate , Jean J./Deltour, Marie J.	Feb. 23, 1773	Collet , Henri L./Socquet, Felicite J.	Jan. 28, 1863
Balate , Joannes L./Collart, Anna	Nov. 3, 1732	Collet , Jean J./Charlier, Maximilienne	Feb. 8, 1868
Ballieu , Jean F./Paije, Josephine	Sep. 18, 1858	Dannoset , Guillaume/Pensis, Philomene	May 16, 1868
Ballieu , Jean P./Dimiaux, Marie V	Sep. 6, 1853	Dart , Philippe/Licoppe, Julienne	Jan. 24, 1847
Baudet , Desire/Pinchart, Marie J.	Feb. 9, 1867	Dasij , Constant/Dumoulin, Marie J.	Sep. 11, 1857
Baudet , Gille/Timmermans, Anne M.	May 23, 1762	Dasit , Jacque/Celis, Jeanne	1802
Baudet , Guillemin/Bourguignon, Jeanne M.	Jun. 26, 1742	Dasit , Jacque/Redain, Marie T.	Sep. 15, 1809
Baudet , Jean A./Rebin, Marie V.	Sep. 10, 1856	Dassij , Jacques/Clabots, Anne M.	Dec. 16, 1869
Baudet , Jean B./Baudet, Marie A.	1803	Dassij , Jacques C./Draije, Marie C.	Apr. 30, 1837
Baudet , Jean B./Draije, Robertine	Feb. 11, 1770	Dassij , Jacques C./Vannesse, Rosalie	1840
Baudet , Jean B./Godefrin, Marie A.	May 19, 1844	Dassij , Jean/Chafriaux, Marie T.	Jun 25, 1850
Baudet , Jean P./Draye, Marie A.	Apr. 15, 1815	Dassij , Jean J./Ballieu, Marie J.	Sep.10, 1843
Baudet , Pierre/Hacardiau, Marie T.	1803	Dassij , Jean P./Bastogne, Antoinette	Mar. 5, 1859
Beersaerts , Jean/Moreau, Marie L.	Jun. 24, 1836	Dassij , Jean P./Bourguignon, Maximilienne	Sep. 15, 1855
Benoit , Pierre/Schoensester, Marie C.	Aug. 31, 1842	Dassij , Romain/Bournonville, Louise F.	Aug. 7, 1869
Berceau , Michel/Vanderlinden, Eleonore	Jan. 25, 1840	Dassin , Augustin/Lorent, Julie	Oct. 16, 1836

Georges Washington's MARTEAU Ancestors

Excerpt from "A short Story of Belgium in relation to England" by J Devogeleer, as translated from "La Contribution belge aux Etats-Unis" by Dr. Jules Jehin de Prume, published in "Le Bulletin", Montreal, A.P.Pigeon, Limitée, Imprimeurs, 1924.

Nicolas Martiau, born 1591, received permission from King James in 1620 to make his residence in Virginia, and went to Jamestown in 1623.

He was born in Wallonia. The family name means 'marteau' (hammer), the way it's pronounced in the Charleroi area.

He had important functions, civil and military in the colonial government, and was one of the persons who most actively defended the rights of the colonists and was opposed to the overseas administration.

Maxtiau is an ancestor of **George Washington**.

His granddaughter married Lawrence Washington, the grandfather of George. Other descendants include Thomas Nelson, governor of Virginia, who commanded the troops of Virginia at the battle of Yorktown under the direction of George Washington.

An English traveller, one Wingfield, staying in the Netherlands in the 16th century was ready to say, "The folks of this country seem rather to be lords than subjects."

But when the XVII Provinces of the Netherlands were broken up, Holland (or the United Provinces) evolved a civilization of its own while the disasters fell thick and fast upon the Southern Netherlands, continuously attacked by the United Provinces and afterwards trampled under foot by France. A bill closing the Scheldt paralysed the port of Antwerp and spelt its ruin in favour of London that would gradually become the center of commerce in North Europe.

When Alva ruled the Spanish Netherlands, thousands of Flemings and Walloons flocked over to England. The Flemish immigrants settled most thickly at Norwich that became a Flemish town. One Thomas Bonneel from Ypres, who was appointed mayor, provided his town with Flemish H schools and Flemish books, but so many newcomers felt at home in this place that he was forced to set up new colonies at Thetford, Sudbury, Stamford and Maidstone, while there were Walloon and Flemish settlements at Colchester, Sandwich, etc. The English writer Wheeler was impressed to find that hundreds of Flemish craftsmen had come to London merely with the view of living in freedom, but full of ideas for founding industries. Whatever aspects of daily life he examined, he found Flemish influence (Hops, reformation, bays and beer came into England all in one year.) in one century).

They made bays, says, perpetuanas, and bombazines, while the glass and wire working industries were introduced by Flemish capitalists. Queen Elizabeth was in high feather when Flemish gardeners presented her with specimens of the first roses of Provence, gillyflowers and pinks grown in England. The Queen had offered hospitality to thousands of refugees from the Netherlands, who in their turn maintained a fund for supporting her against the Spanish Armada. Meanwhile hundreds of thousands of acres of drowned land in England were drained by workers and engineers coming from the Netherlands.

Cornelius Vermuyden, the greatest of the embanking engineers, concerned himself with the drainage of the Royal Park at Windsor, the Lincoln and Cambridge fens. All this, however, did not go unopposed for banks and dykes were sometimes destroyed by the fens inhabitants who were in no wood to abandon their watery wastes. No long time and the introduction into England of clover and turnips was bringing about an important change of the crop-rotation, while the improved Brabant plough also came into favour. Nor should we overlook the British farmers who turned their attention to Frisian cattle, the best breed for milking. These agricultural improvements as well as the English system of enclosures opened the way for the achievements of the improving English landlords" in the 18th century. From thenceforth the European farming system was to be moulded on the English pattern.

Many people had been driven into exile in Holland. Lots of them, especially emigrants from Hainaut, tried in vain to receive financial help from England before sailing to Virginia. They seized possession of the isle of Manhattan and interested themselves in the settlement of New Amsterdam and different other towns. England, however would not tolerate the colonizers planting an independent kingdom. Charles II expelled many of them in 1664 and New Amsterdam was christened New York after the duke of York or the future James II.

The first seal of New York bears the inscription ~Novum Belgium 1623 (Belgium the Netherlands) while a monument "In Memory of the Walloon settlers" stands in Battery Park (Manhattan).

A Visit from the Wandering Jew in Ypres

Submitted by Jose SCHOOVAERTS - (according to the handwritten chronicle of Ypres, MS. of the Gent Library, #616)

In the year of our Lord 1623, on the 26th of May a stranger, dressed more or like as a Turk, without stockings or kneebreeches, completely bald, with an enormous grey beard on his chin, a walking stick in hand to which was fastened the traditional bundle, came to the Messines door of Ypres. The sentinel was a good citizen, by the name of **Daniel De Breyne**. He called in Flemish to the peculiar character, asking him where he came from and what he wanted, but the man didn't answer; the watchman repeated his question in Spanish; then the stranger replied: "I am the wandering Jew." De Breyne, controlling his legitimate surprise under the circumstances, and without respect for the reputation of this illustrious person, took him to the bailiff **Pierre van de Castelee**; this magistrate put our Jew through an interrogation in Spanish, during which the arch centenarian child of Moses repeated what he had told Daniel De Breyne, adding: "I stood in my doorway to watch Jesus-Christ go to Calvary, heavily laden with His cross when he came upon my home; he

stopped to rest for a moment; I considered shameful that a criminal should rest on my doorstep and I rudely called to him: Why do you stop here, said I, shame of Israël, go your way and go where you deserve. Christ answered: I will stop, but you, you will continue to walk until Judgment Day; and at that very moment an invisible force pushed me out of my house across the world which I have traveled every which way for close to 1600 years condemned to wander until the last day; now my lord magistrate, I only ask for one favor from you, to be allowed to beg for my bread here as I have done elsewhere, as man needs to eat for as long as he lives."

The bailiff granted his request and the centenarian went door to door begging for the wandering Jew, followed by a great number of people not less surprised than curious to see a man who was 1600 years old, still so nimble. Great and small fought to give him, and at nightfall he went to an inn, the "Bresil", by the city walls, between the Gate of Antwerp and the St. Jacques Cemetery. The next day he again made his round; people in Ypres spoke of nothing else but of the Wandering Jew. So much that the bishop called for him. He even served him dinner. There it was noticed that he could speak several languages: Italian, Latin, Spanish, French, English and even others. He didn't speak Dutch since, he said, he had never been in Flanders. He told of the many wonderful things he had seen during his long career. The bishop, like all those present, gave him good alms. (?)

The following day he was invited to visit an Italian Captain stationed there. This officer's servant was an old soldier who said that this mysterious man was not at all the Wandering Jew. He said he had observed him and he was sure the man was an old acquaintance of his, with whom he served in Spain, in a regiment now stationed in Gent. They had even shared a bed. This supposed Wandering Jew was born in Paris and his name was **Leopold Deporte**. Upon hearing all this, the captain wrote to Gent to the Colonel of that regiment to get confirmation. That is how some of the centenarian's exploits were discovered. He had begun to court the daughter of the innkeeper. Her name was **Christine Verschuere**. He made her a gift of a flawless piece of silk and even managed to seduce her by proposing to marry her. He told her he had always been married. The 123rd of the wives he had married over the years had passed away 3 months earlier. So he once again was a widower. He added that his wives had always accompanied him on his journey, sometimes by wagon, sometimes by boat, other times by carriage. He said that they lived well and never were without money. He said they never worried about being widowed since he was to live until Judgment Day. This prospect must have worked as Christine Verschuere agreed to marry him. Still, our adventurer went from village to village living off the people's gullibility. A few days later there arrived in the city of Ypres, a young woman who had come directly from Saint-Omer, asking if anybody had seen the wandering Jew; she was told he was staying at the "Bresil". There, they told her he came home every night, and that at the

moment he was busy begging in the village of Beelaere. When they asked her what she wanted with him, she answered she was his wife, whom he had married in Arras 3 months earlier. The lady innkeeper and her daughter were surprised and not too pleased to hear the news; the stranger waited for the wandering Jew. He came home when they closed the city gates.

As soon as he crossed the threshold she jumped at him saying: "Hey! My husband, when were you planning to come home?"

You left me in St Omer, alone and without money; and God knows if you have been faithful to me here!"

The wandering Jew answered that he didn't know her and had nothing in common with her.

They began to insult each other and to argue in French. He threw the woman out, beating her, calling her garbage, repeating that he didn't know her and had never seen her before.

The woman left and went straight to the bailiff and she told her sad tale. She assured him that the man was not the wandering Jew, but really her husband.

"How so, said the magistrate, is he then not the wandering Jew, are you really sure?"

"Yes I am, she answered, he is nothing but a big liar who passes himself off as the wandering Jew, tricking everyone; he is French, born in Paris. His name is Pol Delporte. I am his wife. We were married 3 months ago in Arras."

"In that case, my good woman", answered the magistrate, "come tomorrow before the City Council and we will straighten things out."

The next day a letter came from Gent from the colonel of the regiment the adventurer had deserted from. The order to seize him was immediately given. He was begging at the fish market, behind the Bellegasthuis wall, where they later sold eggs and butter. The Spanish soldiers arrested him and immediately threw him in the prison at the Grand Marché.

The court martial revealed that our Wandering Jew was French, born in Paris, just as the woman had said, that his name really was Pol or Leopold Delporte, who had deserted three years earlier from a Walloon regiment serving Spain, stationed in Gent. The next day he was taken to Gent in a wagon, hands and feet tied, where his adventure ended on the gallows, with a rope for a necklace.

The poor woman went back to St Omer alone and nine months later, the daughter of the Bresil's innkeeper gave birth to a chubby little boy. He was christened Leopold, which was his father's name and was never known as anything else than **Pol Joodts**, or the Jew.

He stayed in Ypres and his descendants were Joodts from father to son.

So goes the story of the wandering Jew of Ypres.

For lack of the real wandering Jew, who was never seen by anyone, Ypres had experienced his facsimile for a few days.

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ROCK ISLAND, IL - 1900 US CENSUS - Extracted from FHL#1240339 - part 3

VANSTECKELMAN , Peter	M	X	May 1862, Belgium	1892-Al	laborer-shop
VANSTECKELMAN, Eugenie	F	W	Jan 1864 , Belgium	1892	
CALSYN , Teo?	M	X	Nov 1866, Belgium	1899-Al	laborer
LOETS? , Desire	M	X	Oct 1867, Belgium	1899-Al	
LOETS, Emil	M	S	Jan 1892 , Belgium	1899	
LOETS, Emma	F	D	Apr 1897, Belgium	1899	
LOETS, Alicia	F	D	Aug 1899, IL		
CLAYSON , Clemence	F	X	Mar 1860, Belgium	1893-Al	laborer shop
CLAYSON, Lena M	F	D	Mar 1889, Belgium	1893-Al	laborer shop
CLAYSON, John O	M	S	Feb 1890, Belgium	1893	
CLAYSON, Harry R	M	S	May 1895, IL		
CLAYSON, Camiel	M	S	Oct 1897, IL		
CANT , Alphonse	M	X	Feb 1856, Belgium	1881-Na	saloon keeper
CANT, Lizzie	F	W	Sep 1865, Germany		
CANT, Roy	M	S	Oct 1893, IL		at school
CANT, ?	F	D	Dec 1895, IL		
CANT,?	F	D	Mar 1898, IL		
CANT, Pearl	F	D	Oct 1899, IL		
STAELENS , Victor	M	X	Aug 1858, Belgium	1892	Laborer @ arsenal
STAELENS, Lena	F	W	Oct 1863, Belgium	1892	wks wheelworks
STAELENS, Alphons	M	S	Jul 1883, Belgium	1892	at school
STAELENS, Bruno	M	S	Nov 1884, Belgium		at school
STAELENS, Veda	F	D	May 1892, Belgium		
STAELENS, Rozie	F	D	Nov 1893, Iowa		
STAELENS, Lizzie	F	D	Jul 1897, IL		
STAELENS, Mary	F	D	Jul 1897, IL		
STAELENS, Charlie	M	S	March 1900, IL		
STAELENS, Peter	M	brother	Apr 1870, Belgium	1899-Al	lab day
KEUKELAERE, Charles	M	boarder	Jan 1850, Belgium	1895-Pa	lab arsenal
DE YAEGER , Charles	M	X	Jan 1842, Belgium	1880-Na	lab shop
DE YAEGER, Alida	F	W	May 1849, Belgium	1880	
DE YAEGER, Gustaf	M	S	Jul 1879, Belgium	1880	works wheelworks
DE YAEGER, Mary	F	D	Sep 1881, IL		
DE YAEGER, Alphons	M	S	May 1888, IL		at school
DE YAEGER, Clara	F	D	Apr 1893, IL		at school
DE PAP , Clement	M	X	Sep 1874, Belgium	1899	steelworker
DE PAP, Maria	F	W	Sep 1874, Belgium	1899	
DE PAP, Maria	F	D	Aug 1897, Canada	1899	
DE PAP, Emma	F	D	Jul 1898, Canada	1899	
DE PAP, Albertina	F	D	Jul 1899, Canada	1899	
VAN VOORN , Victor	M	X	Mar 1869, Belgium	1893-Na	iron molder
VAN VOORN, Elizabeth	F	W	Mar 1876, IL		
DE PAP, Louisa	F	SIL	Jun 1877, IL		ironer ?
DE PAP, Peter	M	/	Aug 1879, Iowa		salesman
MARE , Louis	M	X	Oct 1851, Belgium	1885-Al	steelworker
MARE, Philemina	F	W	Nov 1863, Belgium	1895	
MARE, Maria	F	D	Jan 1897, IL		
MARE, Frank	M	S	Feb 1899, IL		
HAMMERLY , Julius	M	X	Jul 1874, Belgium	1890-Na	laborer shop
HAMMERLY, Emily	F	W	Jul 1880, Belgium	1881	
HAMMERLY, John	M	S	Sep 1898, IL		
GRYP, Peter	M	FIL	Nov 1840, Belgium	1881-Na	laborer shop
GRYP, Amil	M	BIL	Jul 1882, IL painter		
GRYP, Louisa	F	SIL	Jul 1884, IL at school		
ROMAN , Jacob	M	X	Apr 1858, Belgium	1887-Na	laborer
ROMAN, Edlie	F	W	Apr 1864, Belgium	1887	

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ROMAN, Gust	M	S	Mar 1885, France	1887	arsenal
ROMAN, Emma	F	D	Mar 1885, France	1887	
ROMAN, Frank	M	S	Aug 1889, IL		at school
ROMAN, Charles	M	S	Sep 1890, IL		at school
ROMAN, Annie	F	D	Dec 1892, IL		at school
ROMAN, Paul	M	S	Apr 1894, IL		at school
ROMAN, Ida	F	D	Apr 1898, IL		
ROMAN, Florence	F	D	Mar 1900, IL		
VAN DAELE , Charles	M	X	Mar 1872, Belgium	1892-Na	works in wheelworks
VAN DAELE, Sophia	F	W	Feb 1876, Holland	1888	
VAN DAELE, Arthur	M	S	Mar 1896, IL		
VAN DAELE, Emma	F	D	Oct 1896, IL		
VAN DAELE, Clarence	M	S	Feb 1900, IL		
VAN DALE, Arthur	M	Brother	May 1879, Belgium	1893	striper shop
VAN DALE , Edmond	M	X	Dec 1860, Belgium	1885-Na	saloon keeper
VAN DALE, Emma	F	W	Dec 1866, Belgium	1870	
VAN DALE, Mary L.	F	D	Sep 1877, IL		at school
VAN DALE, Sophia A.	F	D	Jul 1889, MO		at school
VAN DALE, Henry	M	S	Oct 1891, IL		at school
DEMINCK, David	M	Boarder	Feb 1876, Belgium	1883-Na	bartender
HALLE , VAN, Charles	M	X	Oct 1848, Belgium	1891-Na	lab. shop
HALLE, VAN, Harsilde	F	W	Sep 1857, Belgium	1884	
ROMAN, Harry	M	S	Mar 1886, IL		
ROMAN, Charles	M	S	Sep 1888, IL		at school
VANHALLE, Lucy	F	D	Feb 1893, IL		at school
BRUGEMAN, Constance	F	MIL	Jan 1823, Belgium	1884	
BLIJAERT , Victor	M	X	Jul 1869, Belgium	1898-Al	lab. shop
BLIJAERT, Lena	F	W	Jul 1874, Belgium	1899	
BRUCKART, Peter	F	Boarder	1860, Belgium	1893-Na	Lab. shop
STEVENS , Charles	M	X	Dec 1862, Holland	1877-Na	Lab. shop
STEVENS, Silva	F	W	Jul 1869, Belgium	1873	
STEVENS, Lizzie C	F	D	Jun 1888, Belgium		
STEVENS, Amil	M	S	Feb 1890, IL		
STEVENS, Albert	M	S	Jul 1893, Iowa		
STEVENS, Clement C	M	S	Dec 1895, IL		
STEVENS, Leonard	M	S	Dec 1897, IL		
BELUE , Peter	M	X	Jan 1858, Belgium	1887-Na	Steel worker
BELUE, Laene	F	W	Mar 1867, Belgium	1890	
BELUE, Louise	F	D	Aug 1891, NJ		at school
BELUE, Amil	M	S	Jun 1893, IL		at school
BELUE, Edward	M	S	Jun 1895, IL		
BELUE, Charlie	M	S	Sep 1897, IL		
SCHATTERMAN , August	M	X	Dec 1859, Belgium	1885-Na	Lab shop
SCHATTERMAN, Louisa	F	W	Jan 1866, Holland	1873	
SCHATTERMAN, Elizabeth	F	D	Nov 1886, IL		at school
SCHATTERMAN, Scharilie	M	S	Jul 1889, IL		at school
SCHATTERMAN, Joseph	M	S	Nov 1890, IL		at school
SCHATTERMAN, Henry	M	S	Oct 1892, IL		
SCHATTERMAN, Frank	M	S	Nov 1893, IL		
SCHATTERMAN, Camiel	M	S	Jun 1899, IL		
HERBRANDT , August	M	X	Aug 1873, Belgium	1892-Na	iron molder
HERBRANDT, Louisa	F	W	Feb 1876, Belgium	1893	
HERBRANDT, Helen	F	D	Mar 1897, IL		
HERBRANDT, Morris	M	S	Mar 1898, IL		
HERBRANDT, Julius	M	S	Nov 1899, IL		
FACILE, Frank	M	FIL	Jan 1843, Belgium	1891-Na	laborer
FACILE, Julius	M	BIL	Jan 1877, Belgium	1893-na	works at Wheel works
GHESELLE , Edward	M	X	Jul 1863, Belgium	1889-Na	iron molder

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GHESELLE, Clemence	F	W	Nov 1850, Belgium	1892	
GHESELLE, Celena	F	D	May 1894, IL		at school
GHESELLE, Frank	M	S	Oct 1897, IL		
COPPENS, Peter	M	Stepson	Oct 1897, Belgium	1892	iron molder
COPPENS, Camile	M	SS	May 1879, Belgium	1892	blacksmith
COPPENS, Theophiel	M	SS	Jul 1883, Belgium	1892	
COPPENS, Romanie	F	SD	Jun 1884, Belgium	1892	
COPPENS, Germanie	F	SD	Jun 1887, Belgium	1892	at school
COPPENS, Juliana	F	SD	Nov 1890, Belgium	1892	at school
BENARD, August	M	boarder	1862, Belgium	1891-Pa	Laborer shop
LANOIE, Camiel	M	boarder	1868, Belgium	1892-Al	Laborer shop
JANSSENS, Edward	M	boarder	Sep 1875, Belgium	1900-Al	RR laborer
BLOESMA, Krys...	M	X	Apr 1854, Holland	1873-Na	iron molder
BLOESMA, Mary	F	W	Aug 1862, IL (Belgian mother)		
BLOESMA, Archie P.	M	S	Jan 1883, IL		
BLOESMA, Peter J.	M	S	May 1884, IL		
BLOESMA, Mary M	F	D	Oct 1887, IL		
BLOESMA, Julia V.	F	D	May 1892, IL		
BLOESMA, Margaret	F	D	Sep 1896, IL		

A Glimpse of Life in Gent in 1820

by Marcel Corneille Blanchaer (e-mail: blanch@cc.umanitoba.ca)

and Marc Verschooris (e-mail: m.verschooris@mercator-hs.be)

"The past is a foreign country: they did things differently there." - L.P.Hartley - 1953

As we search for our ancestors we often find that, as we go further back, those once vibrant human beings seem to fade into mere names and dates. If we are lucky family tradition may have passed along a story or two about them for a few generations back, but that is all that is remembered of them as they slowly recede into the mists of time.

However, occasionally we may stumble on a story that suddenly illuminates what it must have been like to live 'way back then'. This occurred to the present authors when a clerk at the Gent archive accidentally found an unusual birth certificate while searching for documents related to the ancestors of one of us. This certificate, written in Flemish in 1820, was translated by one of us (MV) and modified slightly by the other (MCB) in the hope of making it more comprehensible by North Americans of Belgian descent, separated as we are by time, and culture from the life of our long dead ancestors.

A similar, historically more extensive article, "Fundlings" by Pierre Inghels appeared in "Belgian Laces" Vol 19 #70 - 1997-

The Birth Certificate of Joanna Francesca Bauwens

February 20th - An Abandoned Infant -

Below is a translation of the original birth certificate in Flemish shown further below

"In Gent at 16:15 there appeared before me Francies Verhegghen, head of the Civil Registration, Joanna Kints, 55 years old, from the Novitiate for Foundlings, who declared that a child of the female sex, about 3 months old, had been brought at 15:30 to the Foundling Home, . The child shown to us was dressed in a little linen shirt and a satin dress with white and purple stripes, a red-colored cotton scarf with white flowers, a purple cotton cap and a white undercap of piquŽ. She was wrapped in a white cotton bundle inside a purple-colored cotton covering with red and white flowers. We found a short note attached to the child in Flemish which said: "Joanna Francesca Bauwens age fourteen weeks last Monday"

(Why put these seemingly trivial details in the certificate? See below)

We registered this child by the name of Joanna Francesca Bauwens. This official report was prepared in presence of Angelus Vlaemynck, 54 years old, employee at the sugar refinery and Jan Francies Peelman, 33 years old, police officer, living respectively in Saint Jansdreef and Brabantdam [streets].

After this certificate had been read aloud, Joanna Kints declared she couldn't write; [so] the other two witnesses signed with me.

Signed: JF Peelman A. Vlaemynck F. Verhegghen

After the French conquest of Belgium in 1798, Napoleon decided that every town or village was to install a rolleken or, in the French of the time "un tout". This abandoned child had been placed at A in the 'tub' ('het Rolleken') below. Why in 'het rolleken'? The rolleken looked like a round wash tub that could be turned on pivots, top and bottom, and was fitted into a wall so that the open side of the rolleken normally was open on the outside of the building. The child to be abandoned was put in the rolleken, and which then was turned so the child appeared

on the inside of the building and a bell rang. A nun, often a novice, would then take the child to the municipal offices to have it registered. Sometimes a piece of a torn playing card was left with the foundling. If the mother decided later to reclaim her child she had to show the other matching piece of the playing card and also had to describe exactly how her baby had been dressed when she had left it in the rolleken! That is why all the clothes were described in detail in the birth certificate?

Napoleon ordered installation of the rollekens because he called these foundlings “les enfants de la patrie” and wished to make them soldiers and nurses for his future

European campaigns! In Gent the rolleken was installed at the rear of Saint Johns’ Church. It opened on the 1st of February 1820 and the first child was brought in one day later! He was called “Ambrosius the First” The last child to be accepted was Eleonora Ynt, who was brought on the 5th of June 1863.

So, who abandoned this Joanna Francesca Bauwens? Did her mother wish to give Joanna her own family name or that of the father? Was she poor and felt unable to take care of her child in a cold February? We’ll never know:

- Joanna died 6 days later on February 26th, 1820.

Akte Van Geborte, Februari 1820 (transcript of The original birth Certificate of Joanna Francesca Bauwens) in Flemish

't Jaar achttienhonderdtwintig, den negentienden february, ten vier uren en een quart naermiddag, voor ons FranciesVerhegghen, eersten schepenen, aengesteld voor den burgerlijken stand, is gecompareerd Joanne Kints, oud vijftig jaeren, gepreposeerde tot het neuveine onder vondelingen, dewelke ons verklaert heeft dat sij gisteren ten dry uren en half naer middag inderolle hangende aan het vondelingshuys gevonden heeft een kindeken van het vrouwelijk geslacht, schijnende dry maenden oud te syn, tgene sy ons heeft getoont, gekleed met een lijnwaeten hemdeken, met een satyn lijfrockskes met witte en purpere strepen, eenen rooden katoenen halsdoek met witte bloemen, eene katoene purpere mutseken, en eene witte undermutse van piqué, gebunselt in eenen witten wollen bunsellap en in eenen purperen katoenen idem met roode ende witte bloemen, men heeft ontdeckt in synen bunsel een briefken waer op in het vlaamsch geschreven is “Joanna Francesca Bauwens houde veertien weken sedert maendag”, ende aenstonds hebben wij het selvekind ten register ingeschreven onder den naem ende voornaemen van JOANNA FRANCESCA BAUWENS van alle welke wij hebben opgesteld dit proces verbael in de tegenwoordighyd van Angelus Vlaemynck, oud vier en vijftig jaeren, rafinadeknegt, ende van Jan Francies Peelman, oud dry endertig jaeren, agent van police, woonende in de Sint Jansdreve ende Brabantdam, ende naer voorlesinge heeft de comparante verklaert niet te kunnen schryven. De getuygen hebben benevens ons geteekend. Getekend: J.F.Peelman A. Vlaemynck F.Verhegghen"

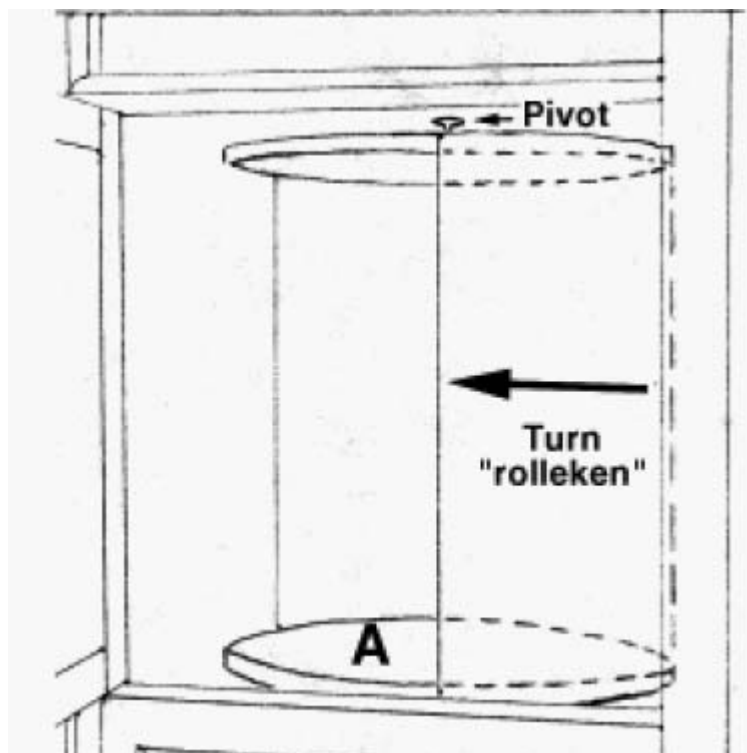
Notes:

neuveine (from the French word *neuvaine*): A novice ('noviciate') in a Roman Catholic order of nuns during her probationary period;

piqué: cloth with a repeating pattern; *rafinadeknegt* : employee of a refinery; *Sint Jansdreve*: St.John's lane.

The “rolleken” shown was drawn by Susan Sures from a photo of a restored “tour” at the Monastery of the Augustine Sisters at Hotel Dieu Hospital in Quebec City.

This abandoned child had been placed at A in the ‘tub’ (‘het Rolleken’) below. Why in ‘het rolleken’?



Glass in All its Shine: the Belgian Influence on the Glass Industry - part 1.

"Le Verre en Wallonie" - Wallonie/Bruxelles #67- June 1999, by Florence Claude, translated by Régine Brindle

The new glassworks of Momignies produce annually close to 270 millions of perfume bottles: the company ships these glass containers all the way to the USA and the Gulf region countries.

Glaverbel is the #1 exporter of thin glass in the world.

Durobor's drinking glasses are a reference in the international hotel trade.

Specializing in mechanical and optical engineering, Amos is privileged to work on big space program projects: at present they are developing 2 auxiliary telescopes for the giant VLT (Very Large Telescope) installed in Chile by a European Research team.

Having grown ten-fold in 30 years, Belgian glass exports exceed 70 billion BF (1.7 billion Euros) with sizable net profits (some 39 billion BF in 1997).

Did you know that one out of every 4 European cars is equipped with glass made in Belgium?

According to the FIV (Fédération de l'Industrie du Verre = Glass Industry Federation) Wallonia provides 60% of the national glass production? With 55 billion in world trade receipts (1.4 billion Euros) in 1997, this sector has brought an added value of 18 billion BF (446 million Euros) and employs 7,000 people. It contributes to Walloon exportation at the rate of 42 billion BF (1.04 billion Euro) in 1997 withstanding the centralization factor (Brussels welcomes the social centers of the greater glass works such as Glaverbel and Saint Roch) and the transportation factor (Antwerp being the port of departure for many deliveries overseas).

Motor of the Industrial Revolution

The localization of the main Walloon glassworks is not due to a chance of fate.

A pillar of the Industrial Revolution in which Wallonia was one of the main centers in the 19th century, the glass industry depended on coal, in those days, consumed in large quantities to feed its kilns. It was therefore mainly in Hainaut, close to the mines that it mostly developed.

In 1834, 21 window glass and bottle glass enterprises settled between Seneffe, Couillet and Mariemont. The growth of window glass was tied to the improving of living conditions (the custom of placing glass in the windows goes back to the 17th century), the development of the bottle industry followed that of the breweries and of the development of mineral waters. Even though the first bottles of "Eaux de Spa" were made in Lorraine, the glassworkers from Bonhome, Province of Liège, conquered the markets as early as 1650 thanks to a generous decree from the Prince of Liège, which held the competitors at bay. This monopoly was broken at the beginning of the 18th century under the pression of the Charleroi glassworkers who flooded the market with their low priced bottles and establish a market in Liège.

The battle was particularly hard.

Between 1728 and 1754, the Amblève Glassworks, near Aywaille, took over most of the market.

Wickered bottles, which eased the transport of "Spa water", - the bottle was wrapped with a wicker screen that protected it from the bumps - now sit on exhibit in several museums.

A shareholder of the "hennuyer" coalmines, the "Société Générale" foresaw the importance of this budding industry and made its first focused move by buying the window glass works in Mariemont - at the time the most important one in Wallonia - and the Val St. Lambert, whose crystal works were sought out by the richest families the world over.

Faced with the new corporation "Manufactures de Glaces, Verres à vitres, Cristaux et Gobeleteries" (Société des Manufactures, for short), 7 window and bottle glassworks in the Charleroi formed a new company under the name of "Société de Charleroi pour la Fabrication de Verre et de Gobeleterie" who had the backing of the Banque de Belgique, ready to gather the capitals needed to support the development of the glass industry.

The conquest of international markets was made easier by the development of the railroad and the steamboat.

In 1870 however, the supremacy of the Walloon master glassworkers was shaken by the French markets and by the Zollverein (German Union Customs) and retreated into a cold protectionism.

The economic depression and the social crisis that marked this period motivated a great number of workers known for their ability to emigrate: they would have no trouble finding jobs in the glass factories of the North American continent or in Asia. Others would move to Northern Europe - From Jumet, Namur and Liège, crystal and goblet workers would contribute in launching the glassworks of Nötsjö, Finland.

Forced to lower their prices, the glass factory owners began to test new production methods.

In 1878, the bottle factory of Jumet introduced the first gas basin-kiln, in the country. The increasing use of this new tool would accompany the accelerated concentration of enterprises and an increase of specialized trade. The glass industry landscape took on a new geographic shape with specialty poles: the monopoly on window glass went to the Charleroi Basin, the Lower Sambre in the Namur Province took plate glass, The Center and the Borinage got the regular goblets and semicrystals, while Liège et Namur specialized in fine crystals.

The Shine of Crystal

It was thanks to **Sébastien ZOUBE**, from Namur, that lead crystal was developed in Belgium. This process had been well known to the British since the end of the 17th century.

The family operated glass factory would produce hundreds of different items, from the ordinary piece to the luxury item. In 1802, the Frenchman **Aimé Gabriel d'Artigues**, who had just taken over the imperial and royal glassworks of Vonèche, near Beauraing, began to use the same British method. Through his continuous improvements on the procedure and thanks to his ability to prepare the raw materials himself, he was able to lower his production cost and turned the Vonèche Crystal glassworks into the most important one in the French Empire.

At the Fall of the Empire, which re-attached Belgium to the Netherlands, and brought about the loss of the French market to the Walloon workers, Aimé Gabriel d'Artigues folded back to Baccarat, leaving behind two competent competitors: François Kremlin and Auguste Lelièvre. They offered to buy Vonèche but were met with complete rejection.

This made them turn to a Cistercian abbey, in Seraing: Le Val St. Lambert and they founded the "Société Anonyme des Verreries et Etablissement du Val Saint-Lambert" in 1826.

The fine glass industry of Liège paid a great price because of the introduction of crystal in the Walloon industry. In spite of their international renown, the Nizet Glassworks, its successor the SA des Verreries d'Avroy, and the Glassworks of Chênée et Vaux-sous-Chèvremont experience a chaotic destiny throughout the 19th century.

As the Belgian Revolution interrupted economic relations with the Netherlands and hastened the fall of the Vonèche factory, the Val St. Lambert Crystallerie began its conquest of international markets. In 1879, as they broke from the tutelage of the Société des Manufactures, the Liège enterprise absorbed its biggest competitor, the "Compagnie Anonyme des Cristalleries et Verreries namuroises", with 3 factories, 2 of which were founded by the ZOUBE family.

At the turn of the century, the crystal glassworks employed 5,000 people.

Thanks to an exceptional labor force and to continuous improvement in production techniques (compressed air blowing, new engraving procedures, etc.) the Val St. Lambert ensures the production of some 160,000 items per day, 90% of which is exported.

Several artists contributed to the international renown of the crystal glassworks of Liège.

Among them is Léon LEDRU who established a fluoro-engraving workshop; the DESIRE brothers and Henri MULLER or

Philippe WOLFERS. In the best days of Art Nouveau, the architect Victor HORTA placed an order with the Val for decorative items, such as the magnificent chandelier for the Hôtel Solvay in Brussels. Gustave SERRURIER-BOVY created the conical vases in clear crystal.

When Art Déco was replaced by the Modern Style, the crystal glassworks enlisted new talents. Dieudonné MASSON created a wine glass collection, Charles GRAFFART drew and engraved some 300 unique items between 1926 and 1929. His mark will be felt in the creations made for the 1958 World Fair in Brussels.

Goblets and Drinking Glasses

It is the building of a glass factory in Manage, in 1853, that gave the sign for the beginning of the greatest development of drinking glasses in the country.

Until then, the production of these items was mostly concentrated geographically: regular glasses in Liège, Namur, Lodelinsart, Rance and Ghlin along with other items.

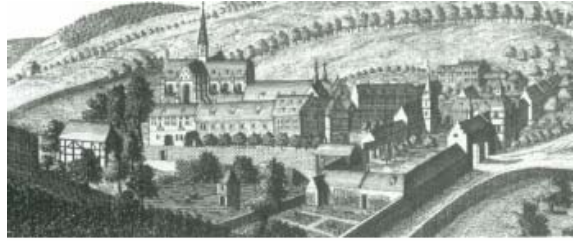
In 1824, Godefroid de Saint-Roch officially received permission to produce glasses in the castle of Lodelinsart - the oldest in the Charleroi region (1669) - which already produced window glass and bottles.

Adrien BOUGARD and Louis CATTON started out at the Laeken Glassworks before renting the Ledoux Glassworks in Jumet. When they set their eyes on Manage to build their own factory, they knew they would have ready access to the fuel necessary to feed the kilns, to a more docile and less expensive labor force than in the great mining basins as well as to an interesting railroad link.

Since setting up 'manual' drinking-glass works didn't require a large investment, the workers of the BOUGARD works would create a number of new factories around Manage and then in the Borinage, and by 1912, the Hainaut counts 18 out of the 29 Belgian drinking-glass works. As they are only dealing in regular production (semi-crystal), these companies would never compete with the Val Saint Lambert Crystal Works.



François Kremlin (1784-1855) et Auguste Lelièvre (1796-1869), fondateurs de la « Société Anonyme des Verreries et Etablissements du Val Saint-Lambert » (1826).



The Rationing of Flat Glass

The expansion of the flat glass industry, in Wallonia as well as in other countries, owes much to the know-how of Walloon engineers and scientists.

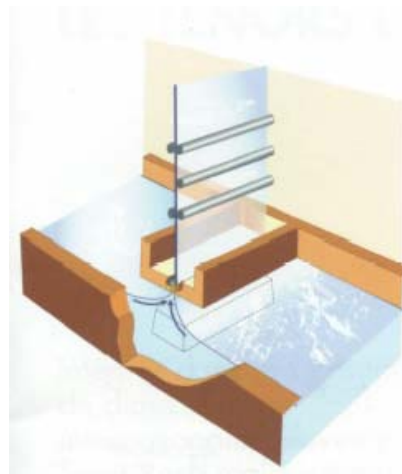
In 1901, Emile Gobbe found a way to make flat glass by vertical pull. Emile Foucault improved this process after acquiring Gobbe's patents and experimenting successfully in his family's glassworks in Dampremy. In 1912, thanks to Belgian and foreign investors he founded the Société anonyme des Verreries de Dampremy, with 8 pulling machines.

These 2 men are at the origin of a real technical break-through.



Following World War I, factories would be forced to abandon manual blowing to survive and to automate the making of window glass. The Fourcault process gains popularity through all of Europe, but also in the USA, in China and in Japan.

However, one American company, Libbey-Owens Sheet Glass Co, in an attempt to impose their own mechanical pulling process in Europe, enticed several Belgian investors: the Mutuelle Solvay (the sodium produced by this company is the first essential element in the making of glass), the Société Générale de Belgique, the Banque de Bruxelles and the Société financière de Transport et d'Entreprises industrielles who, in 1921, formed the "Compagnie Internationale pour la Fabrication mécanique du Verre Libbey-Owens-Mécaniver".

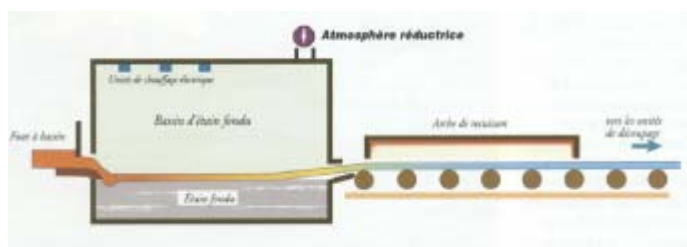


The mechanization of the industrial process caused the Walloon glass industry to lose its monopoly and a serious employment crisis. The risks of over-production give sign for the kick off of a focused unprecedented industrialization. In 1930 Univerbel was created from 14 societies (18 factories using the Fourcault process), or Union des Verreries mécaniques belges.

Six months later, Libbey-Owens-Mécaniver merged with 3 Walloon glassworks (Roux, Moustier-sur-Sambre and Floreffe) to form Glaver or "Société Glaces et Verres". To maintain their high level of competition, both groups agree to divide the markets, to limit production and to establish a basic sale price. In 1932, a third move was made - between the Glassworks of Saint-Roch, Auvelais and of Sainte-Marie d'Oignies - brought forth the creation of the "Glaceries de la Sambre".

These conglomerates intermingled the production of window glass, polished glass and pressed for site specializing: Glaver concentrates on producing, in Moustier-sur-Sambre, glass that had until then been produced in Moustier, Floreffe, Roux and Mol; while the Glaceries de la Sambre favor Auvelais.

That is where, still today, Glaverbel (born from the merging in 1961 of Glaver and Univerbel) and the Glaceries Saint-Roch (heir to the Glaceries de la Sambre) run their 'float' lines. This technology, set up in 1959 by an English firm Pilkington, consists in pouring the molten glass on a molten pewter basin before progressively cooling the glass. This way the glass takes on the perfect flatness of the pewter and gains a uniform surface that does not require softening or polishing.



The technical quality and profitability of "floated" glass are such that it conquered the market the world over, but this switch had a profound social impact: in the Charleroi basin, the closing of factories now obsolete, coupled with the economic crisis of the 70s, have left thousands of workers unemployed.

It also has a financial cost: as Glaverbel administrator Luc WILLAME indicated recently in "Cash!" that a "float" costs 91.7 million Euros.

Constant Innovation

Within fifty years the Belgian glass industry has lost 2/3 of its global strength but since the beginning of the 80s, employment has stabilized around 12,000 people.

Only a policy of constant innovation makes this possible. In 1997, Glaverbel invested 12.4 million Euros in Research and Development to achieve several innovative projects.

The "Institut Scientifique du Verre", which was created shortly after the end of World War II ended, also takes part in this endeavor. One of the Institute's main Belgian client, the Biebuyck of 'Houdeng-Goegnies (La Louvière) has developed a unique process to cut the edges of drinking glass with a laser.

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The know-how of the glass industry is witnesses in the high-tech products it develops, such as the liquid crystals glass marketed by the Glaceries de Saint-Roch), which take on an opaque or transparent nature through simple electric pulse, or in special 'niches' of the market (like the special optics of Amos in the space research). Its success lies in its constant flexibility. Because they are able to produce their own molds, the Nouvelles Verreries de Momignies, specializing in perfume bottles (Dior, Yves St-Laurent, Chanel and L'Oréal), can provide a sample to the customer, 15 days after a drawing is submitted.

Belgian Emigrants from the Borinage region of Belgium

Combined work of Jean DUCAT, Deb JONES, Phyllis SNYDER and Régine BRINDLE

H **GERONDEZ**, Louis Ignace Joseph, b. 24 May 1838, Jemappes emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1893

Son of GERODEZ, Louis Ignace Joseph/MATHIEU, Amelie, married in 1867, Jemappes

W **FINET**, Victoire Adolphine, b. 18 Jun 1845, Cuesmes emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1894

Daughter of FINET, Philippe (37)/LUPANT, Desiree

c1 **GERONDEZ**, Celine Louise, b. Cuesmes emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1894

c2 **GERODEZ**, Adolphine, b. 29 Nov 1867, Cuesmes

c3 **GERODEZ**, Victoire Amelie Marie, b. 12 Feb 1870, Cuesmes; married to Jean Baptiste Aimable MATON, 1890, Flenu

c4 **GERODEZ**, (Paul) Vital Leopold Louis, b. 1 Apr 1872, Cuesmes emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1894

c5 **GERODEZ**, Celina, b. 7 Aug 1877, Cuesmes

c6 **GERONDEZ**, Arthur, b. 15 Mar 1877, Cuesmes emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1894

c7 **GERONDEZ**, Victoria, b. 10 Mar 1879, Cuesmes emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1894

c8 **GERONDEZ**, Marie, b. Cuesmes? emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1894

c9 **GERONDEZ**, Minnie, b. Cuesmes? emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1894

c10 **GERONDEZ**, Maria, b. 3 Dec 1887, Cuesmes emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1894

*The parents of Louis Ignace Joseph were married in Jemappes in 1830 - information received from Dee Yetter's personal family research - see article below

H **GIEVORS**, Jean Baptiste, b. 5 Nov 1873, Cuesmes

Son of GIEVORS, Francois* (31)/HENEAU, Adolphie*1 emigrated to Patton, PA - 1903

W **LUPANT**, Romain, dite Clemence, b. 19 Jun 1873, Cuesmes

Daughter of LUPANT, Romain**/ANDRE, Virginie Victorine

*Francois GIEVORS died in Cuesmes on 27 Jun 1896

*1 **Adolphie HENEAU** was born in Louvignies-Bavai on 6 Feb 1845, daughter of Pierre Charles HENEAU who died in Cuesmes on 1 Feb 1876 and of Marie Emerence LECOCQ who died in Cuesmes on 31 Jan 1875. She married on 24 Mar 1900 in Cuesmes the widower of Felicie PICHUEQUE (who died in Cuesmes on 24 Mar 1894), Xavier Francois CARDINAL. Xavier Francois CARDINAL was born in Cuesmes on 2 Sep 1842, the son of Xavier CARDINAL who died on 10 Dec 1846 in Cuesmes and of Marie Joseph ANDRE who died in Cuesmes on 27 Apr 1885.

** Romain LUPANT died in Cuesmes on 18 Jun 1894

S **GIEVORS**, Gustave, b. Cuesmes, son of GIEVORS, Francois/HENEAU, Adolphie emigrated to Patton, PA - 1899

S **GLINEUR**, Alphonse, b ca 1864, Hornu emigrated to Pittsburgh, KS - 1904

S **GLINEUR**, Jean Baptiste, b. ca 1862, Hornu emigrated to Pittsburgh, KS - 1904

H **GODART**, Florent ca 1878 Paturages emigrated to Scammon, KS - 1905

W **REVEIL**, Clarisse ca 1881 Paturages emigrated to Scammon, KS - 1905

c1 **GODART**, Clemence Paturages emigrated to Scammon, KS - 1905

c2 **GODART**, Joseph Paturages emigrated to Scammon, KS - 1905

c3 **GODART**, Juliette Paturages emigrated to Scammon, KS - 1905

H **GODIN**, Louis, b. Cuesmes

W Julie **FINET*** Houtzdale, PA 1886

c1 **GODIN**, Emmanuel 17 Dec 1881 Cuesmes

c2 **GODIN**, Julia Elise 24 Jan 1885 Cuesmes

H **GONDRIY**, Fabien, b. 6 Dec 1872, Cuesmes

Son of GONDRIY, Charles Narcisse (34)/DIEU, Victoire 1897Na 30 May 1923

W **TELLIER**, Laura, b. 25 Mar 1877, Cuesmes

Daughter of TELLIER Clement/DELSAUT, Elise died 19 Jun 1951 - Danville, IL

C1 **GONDRIY**, Alpha, b. 16 May 1902, Batestown, IL

married 24 Dec 1933, Lucille KNAPP, in Watseka died 24 Aug 1972, Danville, IL

C2 **GONDRIY**, Herman, b. 12 Dec 1908, Danville, IL

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<p>married 12 Dec 1931, Edna CARR, Bloomington, IL C3 GONDRIY, Charles, b. 19 Aug 1913, Danville, IL C4 GONDRIY, Joseph married Margaret HENDERSON C5 GONDRIY, Morris of Westville, IL C6 GONDRIY, Arthur of Danville, IL C7 GONDRIY, Blanche married Edwin STUEBE of Garden Grove, CA C8 GONDRIY, Louis</p>	<p>died 24 Nov 1979, Danville, IL died 20 Sep 1955, Danville, IL died 22 Apr 1988, Seal Beach, CA</p>
<p>H GONDRIY, Leopold, b. 25 Dec 1878, Peronnez-lez-Binches emigrated to Danville, IL - 1902 Son of GONDRIY, Francois/PLIEZ, Felicitee married 10 Feb 1900 - Cuesmes W FRANQUET, Marie Solange, b. 19 Jan 1876, Cuesmes Daughter of FRANQUET, Pierre Joseph (d)/MONNIER, Leocadie</p>	
<p>H GONDRIY, Nicolas, b. 17 Feb 1872, Cuesmes emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1903 Son of GONDRIY, Nicolas (27)/GODIN, Stephanie married 18 Sep 1897 - Cuesmes W DESILLY, Juliette Justine, b. 13 Jun 1878, Cuesmes emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1903 Daughter of DESILLY, Omer Joseph**/MARLOT, Louise c1 GONDRIY, Paula*, b. 6 Jun 1898, Cuesmes emigrated to Houtzdale, PA - 1903 * was born at #6, Rue de Flenu, Cuesmes ** Omer Joseph DESILLY died in Cuesmes on 16 Feb 1889</p>	
<p>H GOSSAR, Henri Alfred, b. Waesmael emigrated to Smoke Run, PA - 1888 W THON, Adeline emigrated to SmokeRun, PA - 1899</p>	
<p>S GOSSELAERE, Gustave, b. Boussu emigrated to Chicopee, KS - 1905</p>	
<p>H HACQUET, Emmanuel, b. 28 Feb 1865, Cuesmes emigrated in 1894 died 14 Aug 1936 Son of HECQUET, Benoit(42)/ALGRAIN, Flore married 28 Nov 1888, Cuesmes W DYSART, Irma, b. 9 Nov 1866, Cuesmes Daughter of DUSART, Pierre/GELAVARTE, Catherine c1 HACQUET, Flora b. Cuesmes? to - NOTAIRE c2 HACQUET, Alma b. Cuesmes? to - JOHNSON c3 HACQUET, Rose b. Cuesmes? to - VASSEN</p>	
<p>H HACQUET, Jules W BACQ, Adolphe, b. 28 Jan 1864, Cuesmes Daughter of BACQ, Augustin/DONFUT, Victoire</p>	
<p>S HANNECART, Desiree, b. Cuesmes emigrated to Danville, IL - 1909</p>	
<p>S HARVENGT, Gustave*, b. 24 Mar 1881 Cuesmes emigrated to Pinckneyville, IL - 1904 Son of HARVENGT, Ferdinand/PARIS, Agnes * Jean DUCAT said born ca 1873</p>	
<p>H HAUREZ, Henri, b. 15 Jul 1846, Cuesmes emigrated to Patton, PA 1901 - died 29 Dec 1922, Patton, PA Son of HAUREZ, Henry/ANDRE, Marceline married 29 Apr 1874, Cuesmes W HONORE(Z), Eugenie, b. 16 Dec 1850, Cuesmes Daughter of HONORE, Celestin (39)/LEPOIVRE, Eugenie died 20 May 1932, Danville, IL c1 HAUREZ, Marceline Victorine Henriette, b. 10 Jun 1871, Cuesmes married ? WALKER, of Danville c2 HAUREZ, Henri Celestin, b. 13 Sep 1874, Cuesmes of Hillery c3 HAUREZ, Elisa, b. 19 Dec 1875, Cuesmes c4 HAUREZ, Leon, b. 15 Oct 1886, Cuesmes married on 13 Mar 1907, Danville, to Clemence GERIN; died 17 Nov 1949, Danville, IL</p>	
<p>information from Mildred Hamick 16 Bridge East Danville, IL 61832</p>	
<p>H HAUREZ, Rodolphe, Cuesmes? Emigrated to Patton, PA 1903 W COPPENS, Apolline, b. Cuesmes? emigrated to Patton, PA 1903 c1 HAUREZ, Renee, b. Cuesmes? Emigrated to Patton, PA 1903 S HAUSSY, Clement, b. Cuesmes? emigrated to Westville, IL 1896</p>	
<p>H HAUSSY, Jules, b. 8 Jul 1865, Cuesmes emigrated to Westville, IL 1904 Son of HAUSSY, (Ferdinand) Jules (27)/HALLEZ, Charlotte Josephine married 23 Jul 1892 - Cuesmes W LEROY, Sophie, b. 27 Apr 1874, Cuesmes Daughter of LEROY, Auguste/BOLLETTE, Josephine emigrated to Westville, IL 1904</p>	

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c1 HAUSSY, (Auguste) Ferdinand , b. 11 Jul 1893, Cuesmes
c2 HAUSSY, Marius, b.ca 1900, Cuesmes

emigrated to Westville, IL 1904
emigrated to Westville, IL 1904

S HAWAT, Henri, b. Cuesmes?

Emigrated to Hastings, PA 1901

S HAWAT, ---, b. Cuesmes? Emigrated to Hastings, PA 1901

H HECQUET, Hubert Oscar*, b. 4 Oct 1871, Cuesmes

emigrated to Danville, IL 1901

Son of HECQUET, Firmin Gregoire/HUGE, Palmyre,

married 19 Jun 1896, Cuesmes

W DUBOIS, Clotilde, b. 3 May 1876, Cuesmes

Daughter of DUBOIS, Henri/CALIN, Josephine

emigrated to Danville, IL 1901

c1 HECQUET, Henri Hubert, b. 25 Aug 1895, Cuesmes

emigrated to Danville, IL 1901

c2 HECQUET, Josephine, b. 23 Jan 1897, Cuesmes

emigrated to Danville, IL 1901

c3 HECQUET, Gabrielle, b. 7 Nov 1898, Cuesmes

emigrated to Danville, IL 1901

c4 HECQUET, Adolphine, b. Cuesmes?

Emigrated to Danville, IL 1901

* resided Rue de Flenu, in Cuesmes

H HITTELET, Alfred, b. 23 May 1874, Farciennes

died 27 Mar 1939, Christian Co. IL

Son of HITTELET, Adrien*1/HINANT, Octavie*2

married 23 Apr 1895 - Farciennes

W REMY, Zelia, b. 13 Jan 1877, Farciennes

Daughter of REMY, Marcelin**1/SIMON, Marguerite**2

c1 HITTELET, Emile, b. 19 Jan 1896, Farciennes

married Alice LUPANT - died 2 Apr 1968, Danville, IL

c2 HITTELET, Octavian Joseph, b. 12 Oct 1897, Farciennes

died 1 Aug 1964, Danville, IL

c3 HITTELET, Francois (Franz) Joseph, b. 6 Nov 1899, Farciennes

died 24 Nov 1913, Belleville, IL

c4 HITTELET, Moise, b. 9 Jun 1900, Farciennes

died ca 1905 - Belgium

c5 HITTELET, Jules, b. 20 Oct 1901, Farciennes

c6 HITTELET, Adrien Marcelin, b. 21 Apr 1903, Farciennes

c7 HITTELET, Riena Josephine, b.3 Mar 1907, Farciennes

c8 HITTELET, John, b. 21 Oct 1910, Westville, IL

died 25 Oct 1910, Danville, IL

c9 HITTELET, Mary, b. 25 Dec 1911, Westville, IL

died 14 Aug 1927, Pana, IL

c10 HITTELET, Rose Alice, b. 20 Feb 1914, New Baden, IL

married ? FRAILEY

c11 HITTELET, Alfred Jr., b. 6 May 1915, Westville, IL

married, Westville, IL to Zelia BOURK

c12 HITTELET, George, b. 5 Aug 1917, New Baden, IL

died 27 Oct 1917, New Baden, IL

c13 HITTELET, Laura, b. 17 Dec 1919, Montgomery Co., IL

died 21 Jul 1938, Pana, IL

*1 Adrien HITTELET was born abt 1843, in Farciennes

*2 Octavie HINANT was born abt 1841, in Belgium

**1 Marcelin REMY was born abt 1843 in Waha, Liege, Belgium

**2 Marguerite SIMON was born abt 1843 in Rendeul, Belgium

above information received from Debbie Jones's personal family research

H HITTELET, Emile, b. 19 Jan 1896*, Farciennes see above family

died 2 Apr 1968, Danville, IL

W LUPANT, Alice, b. 16 Oct 1896, Cuesmes

Daughter of LUPANT, Nicolas Juste Francois/SAILLIEZ, Juliette

died 19 Feb 1981, Danville, IL

c1 HITTELET, Louis 29 Mar 1918 married to Dorma?

Died 29 Dec 1987, Danville, IL

c2 HITTELET, Julia 29 Mar 1920, b IL

died 2 Apr 1921, Westville, IL

ASCENDANTS OF LOUIS IGNACE JOSEPH GERODEZ (II)

Researched by Submitted by Dee Yetter- Austin, TX - ldyetter@aol.com

To our knowledge, the most ancient ascendant of Louis I.J. GERODEZ, born May 24, 1838, in Jemappes, has been found in the Church Records of the City of Conde-Sur-L'Escaut. His name was written Thomas GERODE born 1680. He married Adrienne Anne DEFLINES August 25, 1706, in this city. She was an orphaned daughter of a boatman raised by her brother Francois. Thomas was a carpenter for boats and buildings. Conde is located in France, close to the present Belgian border, at the junction of the rivers La Haine and L'Escaut. Transport of goods by boat was an important activity there in the past centuries; namely coal extracted from the mines of the Mons region. The family GERODE has been concerned with this activity for several generations; they were carpenters specialized in boat construction. (shipwright).

A son of Thomas GERODE was Wanton, born 1709, in Conde; he married Marie Therese CARLIER, June 4, 1730 in Conde. Wanon GERODE and Marie Therese CARLIER were the parents of Alexis Joseph, born 1738 in Conde. Wanon was also a carpenter for boats and buildings.

Alexis Joseph GERODE married Marie Josephe AMAND in 1770 in Conde. Alexis was a carpenter for boats and buildings and a tile-layer. After the birth of a son in Conde (Francois Joseph Hubert, born 1772), they came to Jemappes. At

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this time Jemappes was located in the Netherlands, under the government of Austria. Jemappes is a village close to the river La Haine. Alexis continued his previous activities as shipwright and tile-layer. Nine children were born in Jemappes. Marie Josephe, the first GERODE to appear in the Church Records in "Belgium", was born 1774. The other children were: Jean Baptiste Joseph Desire (1776), Louis Placide Joseph (1777), Thomas Joseph (1779), Marie Joseph (1780), Philippe Joachim Joseph (1783), Aimable (1785), Jean Baptiste Zephire (1788) and Isabelle Joseph (1790). Alexis returned to Conde towards the end of his life and died there under the name of GERODE.

Most of the GERODE born in the surroundings of Mons are descendants of Alexis and Marie Josephe Amand. About 110 births were recorded in the two villages of Jemappes and Thulin from 1774 up to 1900. GERODE is written GERODEZ from about 1800 onward, in the certificates of the Civil Status during the French occupation (1795-1814). The clergy kept the population registers and the priest who wrote down his name added a "Z", at this time workers could not read or write.

Among the ten children of Alexis, Louis Placide Joseph GERODEZ is the ascendant of Louis Ignace Joseph, born 1838.

Louis Placide Joseph married Lucie Sophie Joseph WERY, native of Cuesmes (1803) in Jemappes. Eleven children were born, four in Jemappes and seven in Thulin. Near Thulin was situated a shipyard close to the river la Haine. The eldest of these children was Louis Ignace Joseph (I) born 1803. Another son Augustin Gerodez was born in 1810, married Caroline DELIEGE who was born 1808 in Cuesmes. Augustin who was a tile-layer drowned in a canal, in 1858; his wife Caroline died 1865.

A son Alexandre was born 1837 and married Florence LECLERCQ in 1832. Florence died in 1917. Alexandre died 1913.

Alexandre was a tile layer, he put the roof on l'Ecole des Soeurs in 1858, parts of that roof are still on today.

Louis Ignace Joseph GERODEZ (I) married Amelie MATHIEU (1830) in Jemappes.

Their children all born in Jemappes: Silvie (1832), Augustin Louis (1834), Adolphine (1836), Louis Ignace Joseph (II) (1838), Nicholas Maximilien (1840), Josephine (1842), Celina (1844), Leopold (1847).

Louis Ignace Joseph Gerodez (I) died 1849 in Jemappes. His generation was practically the last one to be involved in ship construction and transport. A channel has been cut from Mons to Conde and has operated since approx. 1820. The capacity of the boats was then increased and their construction technique was changed. Furthermore, the development of railway networks started about 1830, modifying the transport policy. The GERODEZ became coal-miners, roofers, and gardeners.

Louis Ignace Joseph Gerodez (II), married Victoire Adolphine FINET (1867) in Jemappes. Victoire was born 1845 in Cuesmes, Belg, daughter of Philippe FINET and Desiree LUPANT. Children: Adolphine (1867, Cuesmes), Victoire Amelie Marie (1870, Cuesmes), Vital Leopold Louis (1872, Cuesmes), Celina (1874, Cuesmes), Arthur (1877, Cuesmes), Zelia (1880, Cuesmes), Victoria (1882, Flenu), daughter still-born (1885, Flenu), Loetitia (1887, Flenu).

Adolphine Gerodez married Aimable Joseph MATON, 1888 in Flenu. Aimable Joseph MATON was born 1863 in Jemappe son of Aimable MATON and Virginie LIMELETTE. Aimable Joseph and Adolphine had 3 children: Louis Aimable (1890), Arthur Joseph (1892), Leopold Aimable (1894).

Victoire Amelie Marie Gerodez married Jean Baptiste Aimable MATON 1890 in Flenu. Jean Baptiste Aimable was born 1865 in Jemappes, son of Aimable Maton and Virginie LIMELETTE. Their child was Ignace Louis Aimable born 1893 in Flenu.

In 1893 Louis Ignace Joseph (II) along with 2 children and a brother immigrated to the US, leaving Antwerp and entering N.Y. settling in the Houtzdale, Pa. area. In 1894 his wife and unmarried children joined him. In 1903 he and his wife returned to Belg., presumably to close up some family affairs and returned to the US on the ship Zeeland again traveling from Antwerp to N.Y. This time traveling with him was his daughter Adolphine, son-in-law Aimable Joseph MATON and grandchildren, Arthur, Leopold, Louisa.

In Pennsylvania Louis worked in the coalmines. He died in 1929 and his wife died in 1932. Most of the daughters and their husbands moved to Illinois. They became merchants and several of them ran greenhouses and florists shops.

THRU THESE GATES

By Denise FRANSAER- CORKE

I went back to my diary for some information about my experience at Ellis Island.

August 29, 1948: I must again write in my diary, great news, I received my visa today. I will be leaving in December. I am afraid that something will happen to keep me from going; I waited two years for this.

I would like to explain why it took me two years to get this visa. The war bride law in effect at that time did not apply to me, as I was not married in Belgium. The girls who married American soldiers were transported on military ships and their passage was paid for, I had to pay my own way, therefore, I had to travel on a visitor visa and had three months to get married or return to Belgium.

I left from the port of Antwerp in Belgium on December 10, 1948. I sailed on the SS Westerdam, a Holland-

America Line Ship. It was a small ship, one class only. I would like to tell you about the SS Westerdam. In doing genealogy research over the years, I spend a lot of time at the Mormon Family Library in Champaign, IL. One day, one of the volunteers was helping me find information about my Belgian ancestors, I noticed his accent and asked him where he was from, he said "Holland" he then asked me when I came to the US, I said December 1948, he replied, so did I, what ship did you come over on, I told him, he replied so did I. We traveled on the same ship. It is a small world. He also told me a little history about the Westerdam. It was a freighter before the war, the Germans sunk it into one of the

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waterways in Holland to block the English and American invasion. After the German occupation, it was salvaged and rebuild into a first class liner. This man, then a young man, worked on the ship to restore it and later was a passenger traveling to the US in 1948.

My family took me to Antwerp to see me off and say goodbye. It was not until much later, when I had children of my own that I realized how hard it was for my mother to see her only child leave the country.

I watched my family leave from the deck of the ship, my cousins and aunt were comforting my mother. I was 18 years old, I was going to cross an ocean to a strange land, to a man that I had not seen in two years and that I really did not know, but, at 18, one is resilient, I don't remember shedding a tear.

The ship crossing was rough, we left in the early evening, after passing the white cliffs of Dover, the sea became very wild and I became very sick. I was sick for four days and I don't wish this on my worst enemy.

I shared a cabin with another young girl. She had hired on as a governess with a wealthy family. She was also seasick. The more the ship roiled, the sicker we were. We tried to go to the dining room to eat, the table covers were dampened and small railings were attached around the table to keep the dishes from sliding off I was OK until they brought the food and looking up thru the windows, I could see the bow of the ship way up there and next, all I could see was water, I quickly ran out of there and stayed in my cabin, falling in and out of bed as the ship rolled.

After four days of this, the employer of the girl sharing my cabin came in and said I am going to cure you girls! She was tired of having to take care of her children herself. She brought a bottle of cognac and literally poured it into us. I did cure my seasickness.

I later went up on the bridge and saw that it was roped off, as the water was washing over the railing, the sea was very rough. I soon became acquainted with other young people aboard and enjoyed the rest of the voyage.

It took eleven days to cross the Atlantic and arrive in New York. For me as for so many others before me, the sight of the Statue of Liberty was an emotional experience. We were all on deck, the one thing that I remember is the silence, every one was thinking about their reasons for being there and wondering what was ahead of us.

We had a party on board the night we docked, we said goodbye to the new friends we made in that eleven days.

The immigration and custom people came aboard in the morning and trouble started. I thought that after waiting two years for my papers, every thing would be in order, not so. I passed the medical inspection first, after looking at my papers, the next immigration inspector asked me "where is you \$200 bond?" This was the first time that I heard about this, the law had again been changed and it was now required that a \$200 bond was posted by an American citizen to pay for my trip back to Belgium if I decided to return. I had the cash and offered to pay it, but this was not allowed, it had to be done by the local family.

I took two days for the authorities to contact the family of my future husband and for them to post the bond; in the meantime, I was taken along with several others from the ship to Ellis Island.

Since 1943, the island was used primarily as an alien detention center. I understand, that at that time, it was also used as a maritime prison.

What an experience for an eighteen-year-old girl.

We went across on a ferry; the tall buildings of Manhattan were quite a sight for me. I must have looked lost and miserable; a man on the ferry brought me a cup of coffee and a roll, The island is right across from Bedloe Island, now known as Liberty Island, I was looking at the Statue of Liberty thru bars. As I often reacted in emergencies, I did not cry or go to pieces, I became angry. I had enough of living thru four years of German occupation of Belgium. Being treated like a criminal was not in my plans.

I remember walking into the hall; it was really dilapidated; there were many people there just walking around or sitting on benches. I found out that some of these families had been there as long as 18 months waiting for authorization to enter the United States. I was locked in a room with two other women, I believe that they were Lithuanians; we could not communicate. There were no blankets on the bed; I slept with my clothes on and hanging to my purse. My luggage was somewhere between New York and Chicago. It was more than a week before my suitcases caught up with me in Milford, IL.

That first night, they brought in 53 people from the Ship Queen Mary; they put a young woman with a baby in our room, she was English, at least we could talk. The next morning very early, guards took us to the basement and we lined up for food. I could not eat it; it was all so strange to me and did not taste very good. We were not allowed to have a knife to cut our food.

I survived on chocolate and candy that I had in my purse.

Here I was, four days before Christmas. The Salvation Army came in and had a party for us. We were all herded into the Big Hall, there were well over a hundred people there, all nationalities also, and some of the prison occupants were brought in under police guard. They had a variety type show for us and we lined up to receive a cloth bag containing oranges, toothpaste and brush, stationary, pencil and candy. I still have that bag. I wrote a letter to my mother and handed it to one of the guards to mail it, he gruffly told me that I could not seal the letter, it had to be censored, that made me angrier yet, I pulled the letter out of his hand and tore it up, I told him that I wrote to many bad things about this place.

I was upset when members of their church greeted a group of Jewish immigrants, and within the hour, they were permitted to leave. I had read a lot about freedom of religion in the United States so when a lady approached me and asked me what my religion was, I told her, the first one that gets out of here. She was with a Catholic organization and did help.

Around five pm, I was told to get ready to leave on the last ferry going out.

After reaching the mainland and filling out more papers, the authorities put me in a taxi along with four other people and we were dropped off at various railway stations and airport.

I was the last one dropped off at Grand Central Station. I realized later on that the taxi driver took me for a ride, I was the only one who of his passengers who could speak English

and maybe I looked a little more affluent than the other passengers. After I had a chance to look around Grand Central Station, I found the first lady that he dropped off, but he did take me around and pointed out the sights, the Empire State Building and an old church. He also helped me get my ticket to Chicago. I had purchased all my tickets in Belgium and they were now past dated.

The train was late, and I had to wait a long time, all I could see were black people. One black lady sat next to me on a bench in the waiting room, she kept talking to me but she might as well be speaking Chinese, I could not understand a word that she said.

I stood on the platform waiting; I was still wearing the same clothes that I had on when leaving the ship, I don't remember ever feeling so tired as I did that night.

It was after midnight when the train pulled in the station, I handed a porter some money (I was not familiar with the currency), I know that he just took part of what I handed him and he put me in a sleeper compartment where I collapsed. I was asleep before the train left the station.

Area News

The Wisconsin Corner: by MaryAnn Defnet

The Peninsula Belgian-American Club closed out its year with the annual Christmas dinner on December 3. Over 100 members and friends attended. In recognition of his many years of service to the Club, a plaque was presented to Elmer DeDecker, former Secretary-Treasurer. His successor, Kim Belgian-American heritage lives on thanks to work of unique group, by Darlene J. TAYLOR, Staff writer for the Clarksburg Telegram, "The Corridor-News from our region & West Virginia"

The Belgian-American Heritage Society of West Virginia is a diverse organization that promotes the heritage and traditions of Belgium through activities and events.

Vickie Zabeau, correspondent/treasurer, said the Belgian Embassy in Washington, D.C., has played an important role since the society's beginning here in 1989.

"They (the embassy) were important in forming the organization and sponsor Belgian functions that members have attended, including concerts and soccer. They have been a support system in keeping our local organization going," she said.

The Belgian Embassy also provides information about the immigration of glass workers to West Virginia.

"All of the Belgians in this area came from the Wallonia region of Belgium, primarily Charleroi, which is the Frenchspeaking part of the country, according to Zabeau-Bowden. 'Belgians were well-known for their skills at glass cutting and glass blowing,'" added Zabeau-Bowden, whose father worked in the glass industry for years before moving into regional politics.

"Belgians first settled in Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania in the mid- to late 1800s, and as the West Virginia glass industry grew, the Belgians were drawn to the beautiful landscape of the state that is so similar to their native land."

When I awoke, I could not remember where I was, I looked out the window, it was early morning and I saw all the wooden houses along the track (I had never seen a house not made out of bricks before). I kept hearing a lady speak with a British accent, I thought that I made the wrong turn somewhere along the way and landed in England, it turned out that she was a British was bride with twin children, she had just returned from a visit home.

Even though the trip was quite an experience for me, I was never afraid until we got near Chicago, then it hit me, it was a new world waiting for me there.

Ellis Island closed two years after I passed thru those gates, after that all the paper work and inspections had to be completed in the country of origin before one could get a visa.

The building was abandoned until 1987 when the restoration began. To day, more than 100 million Americans can trace their family roots back to those who entered the country Thru Ellis Island.

Potier Davis was introduced. A rendition of the old Walloon anthem, "La Bia Bouquet", was sung by Harry Chaudoir and Harris Dhuey. Many door prizes were awarded. The Club will meet again in April and begin preparations for the visit of our Belgian friends in July.

West Virginia:

West Virginia glass producers were able to help fill their labor needs with Belgian craftsmen recruited by promoters of the American window glass industry, Zabeau-Bowden said.

Anxious to attract additional skilled workers, labor recruiters guaranteed not only high wages, but also recognition of traditional unions in the glass trades.

The Belgians were an important influence in communities like Adamston, Salem, Clarksburg, Morgan-town and Fairmont, Zabeau-Bowden said.

The official census of 1910 indicates the Belgian immigration created an increase of more than 30 percent in foreign-born whites in the key glass-producing counties of Harrison and Monongalia.

The influx of Belgian workers also made a cultural impact on communities. They were known for their dances, socialization and Belgian baseball and picnics, where Belgian delicacies like galettes and Boudin (sausages) were common. "Music was so important in their lives," Zabeau-Bowden said'.

"Children were always encouraged to learn to play an instrument. In the early 1900s, the Salem College Band was comprised of mostly Belgian musicians.

"We try to keep that love of music a part of our events."

The Belgian-American Heritage Society of West Virginia consists of Belgian Americans throughout the state, as well as other states that do not have an active Belgian society.

"We meet four times a year, including a picnic to commemorate National Belgium Day," said Zabeau-Bowden.

"We make it on the Sunday closest to the holiday as possible. Any Belgian-American is welcome to attend."

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Other society activities include entertaining an exchange student, hosting speakers from Belgium, and holding meetings that deal with aspects of Belgian life.

"It is like a second family with similar patterns of lifestyle, principals, foods and more," said Zabeau-Bowden.



Jules Alexander Jaumot, born in Belgium on May 2, 1872, and his wife, Mamie Mary Smith Jaumot, born in Louisville, Ky., on July 18, 1884. She died in Clarksburg on May 31, 1930. He died in Essex, Md., on Oct. 22nd, 1942.

Anyone interested in more information about the Belgian-American Heritage Society can contact Zabeau-Bowden at 623-4489.

Staff writer Darlene Taylor can be reached at 626-1439.

To and From:

Father Jean Ducat just announced that a special effort is underway in Belgium to welcome the descendants of the Belgian emigrants who are interested in discovering the land of their ancestors, in the Province of Luxemburg.

This good news comes at a time when Jean Ducat is finishing the work on his latest publication: "Nos Luxembourgeois au Nouveau Monde". It might also interest you to know that there is an organization in Port Washington, Wisconsin for the descendants of settlers from the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg.

Father Ducat visited Belgium, Wisconsin last October and commented on the wonderful people who took such good care of him and his companion.

More details on who to contact will be given as we receive them.

Guy GALLEZ has put together a very nice site on the Belgians who fought in the Civil War, whether on the side of the North or the South. They're there.

He probably could use more input if you are willing to share with him. Go check out his web site at:

<http://users.swing.be/sw032310/Index.htm>

Queries:

BL01-387: BERTRAND

Annette CHOUL, of Halanzy, Belgium is looking for cousins in the USA, who would be the descendants of Mathias

BERTRAND and his first wife Anne Marguerite ALMETER. Mathias was born about 1800, in Luxemburg. His first wife passed away in Bonnert, in 1851. He and his second wife, Suzanne STOFFEL (b. in Fouches abt 1830), emigrated to the US in 1854 with the child of the first marriage, Henri (b in 1832).

Other children of the first marriage were:

- Marie BERTRAND, 1824-1865, who married Pierre HUTTERT

- Nicolas BERTRAND, 1825-1825

- Victor BERTRAND, 1826-1829

- Jean Pierre BERTRAND, 1828

- Anne-Marie BERTRAND, 1829-, who married Jean FEYEREISEN

- Jean Baptiste BERTRAND, -1828

She would like to get in touch with anyone who could help her find her relatives. Contact me personally with your replies.

BL01-388: ROLAND/PICARD

Guyta ROLAND is looking for the descendants of Jules ROLAND, born 04 May 1867 in Senonchamps, Sibret, near Bastogne.

He emigrated to America about 1889/1890. He might have been married to ? KOBBS. He corresponded with the PICARD-ROLAND family until WWII but all the letters were burned during the Battle of the Bulge. So, she has no access to names of states or cities. Her aunts and uncles have always said he went to the USA but it could also be he went to Canada.

Any help will be appreciated.

Contact her at rolandguyta@hotmail.com

Thanks!

BL01-389: GERARD

My name is Paul John Gerard, this is the first time I am using this web site, and am fascinated by it. According to my research, I am 15/16 Walloon, with most of my great-great parents emigrating from the Brabant province and settling in the Brown, Kewaunee, Door County, Wisconsin. My great grandfather was Desire Gerard, born October 1852 in Belgium (not sure of location) and died in Green Bay, WI on 8/17/1942. His father was Pierre Joseph Gerard, b. 2/10/1814 in Archennes, died about 1872. Pierre married Francois Eugenie LaCourt in Grez-Doiceau on 6/6/1844 and emigrated to Wisconsin (Brown or Kewaunee County) in the 1850s.

I am looking for help in determining the departure and arrival dates for the emigration and who were listed as family members.

Paul Gerard, Green Bay, WI - 920 468-8275 - pgerard@execpc.com

BL01-390: FANARD, HUBERT, LANOTTE, GOFFINETT

From Patsy and Bill FUMAGALLI PJJC@webtv.net

Looking for any information concerning the following people:

FANARD, Marie Therese, B: 1831 Moyen Luxembourg, Belgium, daughter of FANARD, John Joseph, b. Moyen, Luxembourg, Belgium and of HUBERT, Marie Therese b.

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Belgium, Wife of LANOTTE, Nicholas John b. April 23, 1817 in Suxy, Luxemburg - m. Jan 7, 1854 Perry Co., Indiana, USA --Imm. <1849> Any assistance would be appreciated, Bill

BL01-391: Out of Print Books

Paul THEYS is looking for out of print books to buy for his own library:

1. *From Grez-Doiceau to Wisconsin*, by Mary Ann Defnet.
 2. *15400 Belges Devenus Americains 1620-1920*
 3. *Migration Compilation 1996*
 4. *History of Door County, Wisconsin*, by Chas I. Martin, 1881
 5. *Our Marchant Relatives*, by Jeanne and Les Rentmeester
 6. *Port of Antwerp, Belgian Emigration 1855* - from original registers, by Charles Hall & Heritage International.
- syeht@hotmail.com or call 920-437-3014 or write 148 Brookridge St., Green Bay, WI 54301

BL01-392: STAS

I am looking for Charles Hector Joseph STAS, b. Jauche, Belgium, 12 Aug 1876. His father was Charles STAS and mother, Clementine MOCTHOT (MERTHOT/MATHIEU??) Hector, and his brother, Louis, came to the U. S. when he was about 16 years old. We think their father may have come with them, but later returned to Belgium. I don't know where they entered the U.S., but they first settled in Chicago. Hector married Phillaneeze "Fannie" Collette in L'Erable IL, 9-7-1896. Her father was Louis COLLETTE and her mother, Julia LA FOND. My father, Eugene Charles STAS, was born 10-5-1902 in Clifton IL. They moved to Oklahoma about 1907. Hector died in Oklahoma City OK, 12 Aug 1933. The obituary indicated he still had a sister in Belgium. In Iroquois Co., he was a farmer.

Louis married an Indian woman, moving to Oregon or Arizona.

We know that Hector left his mother, 2 sisters (Julia and Melanie) and possibly a brother in Belgium. Julia married Louis DE KEYSER. They had 2 children, Ernest, b. May, 1901, and Melanie, b. about 1907.

Melba Gene (STAS) ARNOLD - Del City OK - E-mail: promogal2@juno.com

BL01-393: BINART

Does anyone know of a BINARD family from Belgium living in the United States? A gentleman with that surname, living in northeast Wisconsin, thinks he may be the only Belgian - born BINARD in this country.

One Pierre BINARD, born 1827, emigrated in 1856, but nothing more is known about him.

If you have information, contact Mary Ann Defnet, 253 Little Road, Green Bay, Wisconsin 54301- 1903. Thank you.

BL01-394: MUSIN

I am searching for information on the family of Francois Joseph Augustin Musin and Catherine Louise Lefebvre who were my great-grandparents. Francois was born in 1834 in Hornu, Hainaut, Belgium; he died on October 23, 1883 in Hornu. Catherine was born on November 30, 1837 in Hornu. There were twelve children in the family, all born in Hornu:

Judith (b. 09/02/1856); Emmanuel (b. 29/07/1857); Pierre Joseph (b. 06/09/1859); Adolphe (b. 01/02/1862); Charles (b. 11/02/1864); Francoise (b. 08/06/1866); Jean-Baptiste (b.18/01/1869), my grandfather who emigrated to McDonald, Pennsylvania in 1900; Louise (b. 06/06/1871); Paulene (b. 02/03/1873); Adele (b. 25/09/1874; Adeline (b. 08/10/1876); and Ledouze (b.17/06/1878). Like Jean-Baptiste, Charles and Ledouze also emigrated to the U.S. in the early 1900s.

I was named after my grandmother, Rose Hortense Moulinet MUSIN, who emigrated to the USA in 1901 with her two young sons, Henri (my father) and Jean-Baptiste (an uncle) to join her husband in PA. Rose Hortense Moulinet was born on 25/09/1869 in Paturages, Hainaut.

At some point in the States, my father's name was changed from Henri MUSIN to Henry MUSSIN.

Can anyone supply me with additional information on this family to aid me in my genealogy effort?

Hortense SWENSON - swenson@erols.com

Answers:

BL01-391: from Elizabeth Verdoorn

Lester F. Rentmeester, 1131 Rivermount Dr., Melbourne, FL. 32935 - 1-321-254-2435

Hope this helps you to contact them. Was told that the book is about \$20.00 but not positive.

BL01-391: from Kim POTIER

"The Antwerp Emigration Index" for 1855, by Charles M. Hall and Heritage International.

The Everton Publishers Inc., Box 368, Logan, UT 84321 - (435) 752-6022

Kim also has on hand "The History of the Belgian Settlements in Door, Kewaunee and Brown Counties" by Math Tlachac.

Contact her at kpotier@itol.com

BL01-391: from Glenn CLEEREMAN

Foundry Books is located in Mineral Point, WI. They specialize in books concerning Wisconsin History. They have found a couple different books for me and if they cannot locate a book right away they will keep your request on an active list.

Their website is located at: www.foundrybooks.com

They not only search their own inventory but also have contact with many other "Old Book" stores who will also keep your requests on an active list. Hope this is of some help to you and that they will be able to help you locate some of what you seek.